FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 MARCH 1984

Lebanon

Security Situation — The situation in West Beirut was tense on 22 March in the wake of armed clashes between Al-Murabitun militia and gunmen from the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and the Amal Movement, according to Voice of Lebanon radio and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Al-Murabitun was forced to retreat deep into the Sunni areas as their Druze and Shi'ite opponents captured Al-Murabitun's "last stronghold" and the house of its leader, Ibrahim Qulaylat, who is visiting Libya. Al-Murabitun's clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio, which had earlier reported Qulaylat's Libya visit, suspended normal programming on 22 March and was heard broadcasting music. The Voice of Lebanon cited preliminary reports that about 125 people were killed or wounded in the fighting and Radio Free Lebanon said the Amal Movement gained control over most of West Beirut, surrounding the Sabra and Shatila areas to prevent the Palestinians from supporting Al-Murabitun. Voice of Lebanon radio announced that the Amal Movement has ordered Palestinians in the camps to hand over their weapons.

As for the contact lines between East and West Beirut, both the Voice of Lebanon and the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported further clashes on 21 March.

Political Situation — The official spokesman of the Lebanese Forces Command, in a statement reported by Voice of Lebanon radio, revealed that his side has begun contacts with the PSP and is about to hold contacts with the Amal Movement. "We will always be prepared to undertake such contacts provided the cease-fire remains in effect," he affirmed. The spokesman held Syria responsible for the failure of the Lausanne conference on the grounds that it would no longer have a role to play in Lebanon if reconciliation was achieved. In an interview with Radio Free Lebanon, Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram likewise stressed that he has no objection to negotiating with any Lebanese side provided that these talks are free from any foreign pressure.

Meanwhile, President Amin al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut after holding talks in Paris with French President Francois Mitterrand, Beirut radio reported. Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, who also met with Mitterrand in Paris, told Radio Monte Carlo that the French president has approved Birri's suggestion to ask the UN Security Council to augment UNIFIL's size and effectiveness. After meeting with the French external relations minister, Birri also disclosed that France has decided soon to withdraw its troops from Beirut, according to AFP.

Israel

If the Knesset decides against dissolution and early elections during the 22 March plenary session, the Cabinet will submit a motion at the beginning of the summer session to hold elections in November, Jerusalem radio reported. Meanwhile, former Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman has announced his intention to establish a new political party, the radio noted.

Iran-Iraq War

Denying the "malicious news" that the ICO mediation committee will leave soon for Tehran at Iran's request, an Iranian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman announced that Iran had "merely suggested" that the ICO send experts to investigate Iraqi chemical bombings, Tehran radio reported.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi military communique for 21 March, broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, reported the killing of 105 Iranian troops in the operational sector east of Basra. The Iraqi Air Force also launched 104 combat missions which inflicted "heavy losses" on Iranian personnel and equipment, the communique added. The Iranian military communique carried by Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces had disrupted Iraqi troop movement and supply activities.

Jordan

The Jordanian Government expressed "strong regret" at the U.S. decision to withdraw its request from Congress on supplying Jordan with Stinger missiles, according to an official Jordanian spokesman cited by Amman television. Jordan considers this measure "detrimental" to its security capabilities, the spokesman added.

Egyptian-Jordanian Relations

King Husayn received visiting Egyptian Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz at his palace on 21 March, Amman radio reported. The Egyptian official conveyed a message to the king from President Husni Mubarak, which dealt with coordination on efforts to settle the Palestinian issue, the Iran-Iraq war, and the recent attack against Sudan, MENA noted.

Syria

Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi left Damascus for Riyadh on 21 March after talks with high-ranking Syrian officials, SANA announced. His talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad dealt with important Arab issues and the means to reach "radical and fruitful" solutions, Damascus radio added.

Libya

After earlier denying knowledge of a U.S. memorandum on the Sudan air raid incident, the Foreign Liaison Bureau has now "categorically refused" to accept this memorandum as conveyed to it by the Belgian ambassador, JANA reported. Libya regards the memorandum as a U.S. threat to "declare war" against it on behalf of Egypt and Sudan. "Artificial borders between Arab countries" are the result of colonialism and do not provide a "pretext for interference" in the region or in Arab affairs, JANA added.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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'Arafat Confers With Soviet Ambassador in Tunis

JN212032 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Tunis, 21 Mar (INA) — The Soviet Union has reiterated its support for the Palestinian Arab people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. This came during a meeting held here today between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Soviet Ambassador in Tunis Vselovod Kizichenko.

The Palestinian news agency, WAFA, said that during the meeting the Soviet ambassador stressed that his country considers the unwavering principles in which it believes and for which it struggles criterions for any side.

It added that the two sides discussed the developments in the Arab region and the Palestine question in particular, in addition to the situation in Lebanon.

Algeria Mediates Between Syria, PLO, Egypt

JN221000 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 22 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] Damascus — Exclusive — PLO Executive Committee member Dr Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani arrived in Damascus yesterday from Cairo on a working visit to the Syrian capital. During the visit, Ad-Dajani will meet with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar', and various Palestinian leaders to discuss the developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

Dr ad-Dajani's visit to Damascus falls within the mediations to bring both the Syrian-Palestinian and Syrian-Egyptian viewpoints closer together.

In another development, *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* has learned that during his visit to the Syrian capital 2 days ago, the Algerian foreign minister conveyed a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to the Syrian president which included practical suggestions to ease the tension on the Iranian-Iraqi front, and pacify the environment between the Syrian leadership and 'Arafat.

Guinean President Says ICO Delegation to Visit Iran

GF211846 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure has announced that the mediation committee formed by the ICO under his chairmanship to find a peaceful solution to the Iran-Iraq conflict, will leave for Tehran soon upon Iran's request. In a statement to the Algerian News Agency, the Guinean president said: We did actually make a call for a cease-fire and we accordingly suggested that the 1975 Algiers agreement's principles be adopted and considered the basis for a cease-fire. We still hope that Iran and Iraq will respond to this call made on behalf of the Islamic nation.

BAHRAIN

Heir Apparent Returns From Saudi Arabia

GF211928 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1820 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Manama, 21 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, returned from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Manama this evening, following a visit he made at the invitation of His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general.

During his visit, the Bahraini heir apparent, accompanied by Prince Sultan, made an inspection tour of King Khalid military city at Hafr al-Batin.

KUWAIT

Official on Location of U.S. Embassy in Israel

LD211043 Kuwait KUNA in English 1007 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Kuwait, March 21 (KUNA) — The director of the Political Department at the Kuwait Foreign Ministry, Khalid Mohammad Ja'far said Wednesday the information he has obtained through diplomatic channels affirm that the present U.S. Administration opposes relocating its embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem.

Ja'far added in a statement to KUNA that the Reagan administration was determined to confront congressional pressures to move the embassy to the holy city. The director noted that he discussed the embassy issue with the American charge d'affaires to Kuwait, Philip Griffin, Tuesday and told him that the embassy transfer contravenes the U.S. interests and its relations with the Arab world. Ja'far stated that he explained to Griffin the exploitation of the embassy issue by the Democratic presidential contenders, Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart, and Kuwait's stance toward the subject.

The Kuwaiti official noted that the embassy has become part of the presidential election camapign games and Kuwait was primarily concerned at this stage over the attitude of the official American Administration and not that of presidential candidates. Griffin replied that the Reagan administration's views on the embassy transfer hinges on deliberations of the legislative and executive authorities according to their powers, the director said.

Commentary Views 'Threat From Foreign Nationals'

GF192000 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 18 Mar 84 pp 1, 26

[Article by 'Abdallah Ahmad Husayn [former Kuwaiti ambassador to Morocco] entitled: "Toward a Kuwaiti Identity"]

[Text] I do not think I am exaggerating when I call for the withdrawal of Kuwaiti nationality from those whose are convicted of plotting against Kuwait and taking part in the bomb attacks at the instructions of a foreign quarter that harbors evil toward the Arab Gulf.

When I advocated that we should be alert to the threat from foreign nationals who have immigrated to the country, I was told that I was a racist and that I was trying to sow discord among members of the same Kuwaiti family — until there emerged among these nationals the first generation of those who want our country to be the victim of repeated foreign aggression. I do not know whether it is my right now to be content with the withdrawal of Kuwaiti nationality from the intruders, or to insist on reconsidering the nationality issue and reviewing all the files and documents so that we can ascertain that everyone who holds Kuwaiti nationality deserves to do so.

An Arab identity is a requisite for those who hold Kuwaiti nationality [jinsiyah]. To make such a demand is not to adopt a racist stand — many have become Arabs and were no longer aliens after they relinquished their former nationality [qawmiyah]. Because we have not laid sufficient emphasis on the Arabism of the holders of Kuwaiti nationality we have fallen into the dilemma of having foreign nationals seeking to settle in the country. I beleive that the opportunity is not yet lost, and that it is now possible to take the initiative and adopt a firm and courageous stand — not only in Kuwait but also in the entire Gulf — so that we can re-Arabize the region to whose non-Arabization we have greatly contributed.

We do not want to take to task those who have been careless with regard to the naturalization of non-Arabs. In these sad days we do not have the ability to take people to task. All what we can do is to say to them: Enough of these vast numbers that have no allegiance to Arabism and consequently have no allegiance to any Gulf country. Following the series of plots that have been designed against the Arab Gulf countries — including the Al-Mahri and Sha'ban Mosque plot, the plots in Bahrain and Qatar, and the bomb attacks in Kuwait — we must be very alert to protect the future of our people and to preserve our distinctive character which they seek to undermine.

Non-Arab immigration to the Gulf Arab countries and the complacency of some people toward the infiltration of Persians and others have led to a threat which none but a fool or an ill-intentioned person who means us harm can ignore. Therefore, the peoples and governments are urged to stop the organized conquest of our homeland. In order to stop this conquest we must restrict Kuwait nationality — and other Gulf nationalities — to Arabs only, and investigate the facts with regard to the cases where Kuwaiti nationality has been unjustifiably awarded to elements that do not deserve it, and watch carefully the moves of foreign nationals so that they will not burn our country and kill our people while we are asleep.

To differ with rulers in the Gulf and elsewhere is a normal matter that constantly occurs in relations between governments and peoples. It is also normal for someone to seek to change this or that regime, for this is a political issue that could have sound or unsound motives, and survival is for the fittest. However, to allow aliens to infiltrate into our country and when receiving our nationality obey the orders of hostile quarters and cause

destruction around us — there can be no justification for such carelessness.

Those who are conspiring with the "Islamic revolution" to undermine the Gulf regimes cannot but be traitors — hence we adopted a stand toward those who cooperate with Al-Mahri in the Sha'ban Mosque incident, and we adopted a similar stand toward those who sympathized with Iran when the Iraqi-Iranian war broke out, then took a neutral stand and later attacked Iran when it arrested the members of the communist Tudeh Party and threatened to execute them.

We are not defending the Arab Gulf regimes, for they are open to the people who can condemn them if they wish, or praise them if they wish. These regimes will be judged according to the good they do, and will be blamed according to the bad they do. It is the people who have the right to take them to account and whose interests are served by the survival or demise of these regimes. However, we reject a situation whereby the "Islamic revolution" has the last word on whether these regimes, from Iraq to Oman, should survive or not — regardless of our view of these Arab regimes and regardless of whether we believe they are good or bad.

Therefore, when we advocate that Kuwaiti nationality should have a solely Arab identity, it is because we want to preserve the essence; that is, the people who have an Arab character. As for the transient factor — the regimes — the people can decide whether to keep or change them, the criterion being how much they serve the interests of the country, protect the rights of its citizens and ward off the threat of tyranny and the domination of aliens.

Following the bomb attacks, it became clear that everything we wrote about the need to preserve the Arab character of the country was correct, and that we were not transgressing or encouraging a sedition that constitutes sufficient cause to take us to the courts, and that our position was sound. However, people were not listening to what I was saying. Even those who are very much involved with religion have begun to feel that Islam, and not only Arabism, is also the target of the "Islamic revolution," while earlier they did not listen to me.

Some people may not like what I have written, and I may continue to be the target of the harassment which began one week after my return to Kuwait and retirement. However, having found my nation and country in danger, and my people facing an imminent conquest, I cannot but point my finger to where the snake is and cry out loud that the bomb attacks are not the last thing they have up their sleeve, and that we are facing a situation that will exacerbate unless we strike hard at those traitorous terrorists who are now within our reach.

Any talk about Arab security is futile unless there is a security agreement among the Gulf Arabs, from Iraq to Oman, which is strongly supported by all the Arab countries, and unless we seriously think of including Iraq — which is an Arab and a Gulf country — in the GCC, and unless there is a unified Arab army all along the Gulf coast that will seriously stand up to the Islamic revolution.

The armies of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the other Gulf countries are brave armies capable of making sacrifices. If it is possible to unify these armies within the GCC framework and give them the support of all the Arabs, then those who covet ambitions against us will realize that there is a limit to their transgression. However, according to grammaticians the word "if" is not an assertive word.

In order to take the right steps we must first realize who we are. We will not be Arabs unless we make Arabism a basic condition for anyone wishing to be a Kuwaiti or a national of any of the Gulf countries. We refuse to grant our nationality to anyone unless he is an Arab at heart. Either the Arabs — all the Arabs — speak a sound Arabic language, or we have Kuwaitis and Gulf nationals with various mother tongues — this is an issue we must resolve. Both in recent and in ancient history we have seen the fate of those who have neglected their national affiliation.

Awqaf Minister Meets With Soviet Ambassador

GF171420 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 16 Mar 84 p 2

[Excerpt] Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Ahmad Sa'd al-Jasir yesterday thanked the Soviet ambassador to Kuwait who renewed the Soviet Union's invitation to the minister to visit the Soviet Union. The date of the minister's visit has not yet been set.

The minister said that during the ambassador's visit to the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, they discussed the nature of the visit and the ambassador asked that the date of the visit be set. However, no date for the visit has yet been set.

Following his visit to the PRC, the minister had announced at a press conference that the purpose of his visit to the PRC and his projected visit to the Soviet Union is to acquaint himself with the conditions of Muslims in China and in the Soviet republics. He said that during his visit to the PRC he sensed that there is freedom of worship there and saw that Muslims in China have the freedom to publicize their affairs and religious rites.

The minister said that his visit to the Soviet Union will help to strengthen relations between Muslims in Kuwait and the Soviet Union.

SAUDI ARABIA

Lausanne Delegate Returns, Comments on Talks

LD212232 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2112 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Jidda, 21 Mar (SPA) — His Excellency Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, minister of state [for foreign affairs] and member of the Council of Ministers, returned to Jidda this evening from Geneva after taking part in the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference which ended last night in Lausanne.

In a statement to SPA, his excellency stressed that the Kingdom, under the leadership of his exalted majesty, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, in collaboration with the brothers in Lebanon, will work for restoring unity, security and stability to Lebanon. His excel-

lency explained that he told all the sides that the role of the Kingdom is that of seeking to bring about reconciliation between the sides, and that his majesty the king was the first to call for a Lebanese National Dialogue Conference.

His excellency noted that the efforts of the Saudi delegation centered on closing the gap between the viewpoints of the sides taking part in the conference. He said that he hoped the conference would have ended with more positive results, but what had taken place in the way of open dialogue and side contacts to close the gap in the points of view were a basic element for studying the causes and reasons which led to the Lebanese tragedy. He said that the causes must be studied so that the tragedy will not be repeated.

His excellency added that the basic emphasis in the final statement was on arriving at a security plan to bring about a cease-fire and to form a higher military and political committee on security having responsibility for the implementation of the security plan. His excellency said that the gains to be realized from of the national dialogue, whatever they may be, will not offset the losses sustained by the Lebanese people throughout the recent years, but they will be a step on the right path. His excellency affirmed that the Kingdom, under the leadership of his exalted majesty, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, will spare no effort for the sake of extending the hand of assistance to restore Lebanon to what was, and that it will take part in building, developing and reconstructing Lebanon provided that calm, stability and security return.

His excellency affirmed the need to stop all forms of propaganda campaigns, noting that the enemy does not want stability for Lebanon, hence he seeks ways to make persistent demands, to resort to trickery, and to rekindle the flames of sedition.

At the end of his statement, his excellency called on all the Lebanese sides to opt for dialogue and discussion, which would lead to restoring Lebanon's unity and security, instead of resorting to another 10 years of the bullet and the cannon which have led to the destruction and devastation of Lebanon. He wished the Lebanese people a return to calm and stability.

Results of Lausanne Conference Reviewed

LD211433 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Mar 84

["Analysis" by Samir 'Abdallah Sulayman al-Khurayyis]

[Text] Recently in Lausanne, Switzerland, the political leaders concluded the work of the second stage of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference after 9 days of hard and strenuous work, through which these politicians tried to agree to solutions that would restore to Lebanon tranquility and stability. From the start, all indications were that some difficulties would not be overcome in Lausanne, although it proved able to achieve some proper steps toward ending the Lebanese problem.

In the final statement issued on the Lausanne meeting, we find that the conference actually has traveled an appreciable distance toward the objective set by the various factions. This is sufficient reason for being optimistic that the near future is bound to resolve the various differences among the leaders of the Lebanese parties and groups. The statement included a number of provisions, of which the most important are: a ceasefire; the drafting of a security plan based on separation of the warring forces; withdrawal of heavy weapons; preparation of a plan to return the army to barracks when the internal security forces are assigned responsibility for maintaining security; setting up a higher military-political committee led by the president of the republic to be in charge of implementing the security plan and adopting the suitable decisions and measures; halting information campaigns in all their forms; setting up a constituent body to draw a draft of a new constitution for the future of Lebanon within 6 months; and the creation of a dialogue to continue consultations with meetings at the invitation of the president of the republic.

Although the conference reaffirmed the decision taken during its first session in Geneva 4 months ago about Lebanon's Arab affiliation and identity, one of the officials said after the final meeting that the 9 days of the Lausanne conference — which was seeking to reach a national concord in the shadow of which all Lebanese live — was a very short time to remove the hatred of 9 years of bloodshed and end the tragedy and the suffering to which Lebanon is exposed.

Some analysts see the results of the Lausanne conference as extending the Lebanese crisis for another six months. However, other analysts see the opposite, basing their opinion on the unanimous agreement of the various factions for a strengthened cease-fire, in addition to the suspension of information campaigns which increase the ferocity of dissension and fighting. In their view, this is an important element in calming the situation and in convincing the various factions that they should complete what they have started in Switzerland to rescue Lebanon from the fire which it has been for 9 years.

Although the final statement did not refer in any of its five points to the formation of a national unity government, Lebanese sources are almost certain that contacts will be taking place in the next few days to set up a government which, these sources anticipate, Husayn ad-Din as-Sulh, former prime minister, will be asked to form. Some political observers believe that the chairmanship of the Lebanese president of the Supreme Military-Political Security Committee and the nomination of Beirut for the third round of the dialogue conference within 6 months translate the concern of President al-Jumayyil to affirm and to cement the cease-fire and to work seriously to end the Lebanese conflict.

Algerian Foreign Minister Arrives 21 March

GF212021 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi arrived in Dhahran from Damascus this evening. He was received by Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and a number of officials.

Meeting With King Fahd

LD211904 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1850 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Ad-Dammam, 21 Mar (SPA) — This evening His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Taleb Ibrahimi in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister.

Departs 21 March

LD212304 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2237 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Mar (SPA) — His Excellency Mr Mohamed Taleb Ibrahimi, Algerian foreign Minister, left Riyadh tonight after a short visit to the Kingdom. He was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and a number of officials.

Bahraini Heir Apparent Ends Private Visit

LD211627 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Dhahran, 21 Mar (SPA) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander of the defense forces, left Dhahran this evening for his country following a private visit to the Kingdom.

Crown Prince To Attend National Guard Exercises

GF211922 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and head of the National Guard, on 25 and 26 March will attend the final stages of the mobilization exercise being carried out by formations from the National Guard's armored units. During the exercise, codenamed Najd, the graduation of the 6th Joint Arms Division of the National Guard will be celebrated.

UAE

AL-FAJR: Arabs Must Reconsider U.S. Weapons Aid

GF210857 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0625 GMT 21 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Mar (WAM) — The UAE newspaper *AL-FAJR* has called on the Arab countries to reconsider arming their forces with weapons from the United States. The paper warned against being subject to the will of the Israeli enemy who imposes his will on the U.S. Government with regard to any U.S. weapons deal with the Arab countries.

Commenting editorially, the paper said: The superpower is incapable of approving any weapons deal it benefits from unless approved by Israel. The Congress which represents the superpower is in the hands of the Zionist lobby. So, if Israel wants any weapons for aggression or if it wants economic aid then it sets a certain plan for that and the Congress has to approve it — no matter how big the aid plan is. The aid is usually in the form of donations or artificial deals. The paper said it believes that the U.S. Government has become feeble and that the Israeli enemy is no longer satisfied with setting plans for its own armament as it strongly interferes in any weapons deal which the United States tries to execute.

Concluding, the paper urged the Arab countries to realize this fact, to confront it, and not to satisfy the Israeli aggression. The paper ascertained the importance of restoring the military industrial corporation, indicating that this should not be affected by any political elements or regional differences, so that the genuine independence of the Arab armies can be attained.

AL-ITTIHAD Views Lausanne Conference Resolutions

GF211009 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0630 GMT 21 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 21 Mar (WAM) — *AL-ITTIHAD* has expressed regret over the weak results reached by the Lebanese National Reconciliation Conference which concluded its meetings in Lausanne yesterday. The paper termed the resolutions as being "effete," saying "those who issued them know how weak they are. These resolutions temporarily serve to save their faces but they do not save Lebanon from other rounds of violence and destruction." The paper added: "The way the Lausanne conference ended yesterday reflects how some of the sides of the dispute began to bargain on the results of the next U.S. election or probably on the results of the Israeli election, about which reports were disseminated, at a time when the conference was about to collapse." The paper continued that this is an extremely mistaken calculation because "the reform documents which were blown up yesterday as a result of the obduracy of this side or that represented a correct means for extricating Lebanon from its current crisis and from all the crises."

YAR

House Arrest of Foreign Minister Denied

GF211140 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 20 Mar 84 p 5

[Text] An official source at the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Yemen in Kuwait yesterday denied that Yemen's foreign minister, Ahmad al-Asbahi, was under house arrest. The source was referring to a report in Sunday's edition of the Lebanese newspaper, *AN-NAHAR*, that Yemen's President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih relieved the minister of his post and put him under house arrest after Al-Asbahi returned from Baghdad where he attended the Arab foreign ministers conference on the Iraq-Iran war.

The embassy's source described the report as "groundless" and said his country's position on the Gulf war was "firm and clear." The report, he went on, was designed to provoke chaos while the Arab nation is going through "critical" conditions.

Al-Baz Interviewed on U.S. Mideast Policy, Libya

JN220932 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 22 Mar 84 pp 1, 19

[Interview with Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs, by the *AR-RA'Y* political affairs editor — date and place not given]

[Text] Question: How is the Egyptian public reacting to King Husayn's recent statements on the U.S. credibility in the region?

Answer: In his various stands, His Majesty King Husayn expresses a responsible pan-Arab attitude. He is aware of the nature of the situation in the region and the threats facing our Arab nation. He has a clear strategic concept of the international situation and the effects of the struggle among the various world powers on the situation in the region. Jordan bears a special responsibility in being a part of, and in settling the Arab-Israeli dispute, particularly in terms of the Palestinian side which is the crux and main cause of the problem. Therefore, King Husayn adoptedhis stands after a rational evaluation of the policies of the states that have bearing and weight in the region.

When His Majesty King Husayn analyzes and criticizes the U.S. policy, he does so on an objective basis with the aim of expressing the desire that the United States should play the role required of it, both in terms of realizing a just and comprehensive peace, of preserving security and stability in the region. King Husayn's stands on U.S. policies must be taken with extreme seriousness and concern because they are expressed by a friend who expected the U.S. stand to be more objective and more positive. King Husayn's stands are not a result of spontaneous reactions or factors. He has always planned his stands carefully, and conveyed them to the United States either through direct contact or by letter. Sometimes there is a need for us to discuss our stand on U.S. policy publicly and through the media. This is not aimed at slandering the United States or depicting it as an enemy in the eyes of the peoples of the region. The aim is to rectify U.S. policy and neutralize the pressure to which the U.S. Administration is being subjected — pressures that come from lobbies not serving U.S. interests.

This pressure was made clear recently through the efforts exerted by the lobbies in both houses of the U.S. Congress to force the administration to transfer the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. Despite the fact that this pressure campaign is unconstitutional and is not based on any legal basis in accordance with the U.S. system, it has continued and was escalated with the aim of putting pressure on the government and forcing it to take a position countrary to U.S. commitments and credibility.

On another level, we see that the U.S. presidential candidates are still expressing blind support for Israel and violating U.S. commitments toward the Arab states and friendly countries.

All of us can see that U.S. Middle East policy leaves much to be desired, and that there is a need for comprehensive revision if the United States is serious and earnest in its desire to contribute toward realizing peace and security in the region. There are questions about U.S. policy in Lebanon and the U.S. inability to tread the path that leads to a solution of the crisis in this fraternal country. This is all despite the fact that the Lebanese parties concerned granted the United States an immense opportunity to make moves to end the Israeli occupation in Lebanon and enable Lebanon to reconstruct itself politically, economically, and psychologically.

There is another question concerning the U.S. contribution toward ending the Iraqi-Iranian war. The United States, as one of the two superpowers in the world, shoulders a responsibility that is greater than that of the medium and small powers that have no means of affecting the situation. There is a great need for a definite U.S. policy to contribute toward ending this war. These questions make us wonder whther there is a clear-cut U.S. policy toward the region. The continuation of this policy will inevitably lead to encouraging extremism and escalating tension in the region, something which will eventually harm everyone.

It is very strange that the United States, because of its extreme zeal to meet Israel's desires, should support certain Israeli policies that are not supported in Israel itself. This, the United States is behaving as though the Middle East is Israel and as though the other states in the region are unimportant, negligible powers. We reject this situation and we strongly resist it.

Question: How do you view events in Lebanon after the Lausanne conference?

Answer: We view the recent developments in the Lebanese crisis with hope. The door is now open for Lebanese reconciliation with the aim of realizing two objectives: ending the Israeli occupation and reconstructing Lebanon and preventing its partition. We believe that the Lausanne conference developments augurs well. We call on all parties concerned to show goodwill and implement what has been agreed on because the question now concerns the existence or nonexistence of Lebanon.

Question: What about the future of the Egyptian-Palestinian relations?

Answer: Through our contacts with the Palestinian leadership, we have felt that there is a genuine desire to improve relations with Egypt on all levels because the Palestinian people and leadership are convinced of the fateful relations with Egypt — relations that are a basic factor for confronting the challenges we are facing. The various Palestinian resistance factions believe that the events which affected the Syrian-Palestinian relations over the past few years must be forgotten and that a new leaf must be turned because of the two sides' identity of interests.

When we deal with the fraternal Palestinian people we do not try to impose our views and will on them. We adhere to our principle that the will of the Palestinian people should be preserved because we believe that the Palestinian people on the one hand and the people in Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan on the other have special relations that must be placed above all our differences.

Question: Has Egypt settled issues with Libya after the Omdurman incident?

Answer: Egypt's desire is to establish the best relations possible with all the Arab countries, because we believe in the unity of interests of the Arab people and that there are no contradictions in Arab aims and interests.

As for the Arab states that are adjacent to us, we would like to establish goodneighborly relations with all of them without exception. We believe that differences in policies do not prevent the establishment of good relations. Hence, Egypt has taken a number of steps since President Husni Mubarak took over. As a first step, Mubarak prevented all media attacks on any Arab state, even if this state attacks Egypt. The president then established bridges with those Arab countries that wanted to improve their relations with Egypt regardless of the lack of diplomatic relations between Egypt and these countries. This was based on the assumption that the fateful relations between us are stronger than formalities; and that the issue of diplomatic affairs and what Egypt has been subjected to since 1978 are a provisional, ephemiral phenomenon that cannot affect inter-Arab relations.

Therefore, we have always been ready to respond to any moves to improve our relations with Libya. We continue to believe that there is no conflict of interests between Egypt and Libya, and that differences over some political points cannot assume the nature of enmity or hostility between the two countries.

However, this is one thing and Libya's policy toward its neighbors is another. We believe that the Libyan policy of threatening peace and stability in neighboring Arab countries is detrimental to the interests of the Arab states including Libya. Waging trouble in Tunisia or escalating tension, rather than amity and good will, on the Sudanese-Libyan border will harm the Arab people in these areas. Libya has always said that it does not harbor any ill will toward Sudan,and that certain foreign sides are trying to foment trouble between Libya and its neighboring Arab countries. It also said that the Sudanese Government is inventing trouble and differences. However, it has been clearly ascertained that the Libyan side made several attempts at disturbing security and stability in Sudan. This does not serve Libyan or Arab interests.
Therefore, Egypt had to take a firm stand and to warn Libya that it would not tolerate any new Libyan attempt against Sudan. We hope that Libya will abandon this behavior in its relations with Sudan and the neighboring Arab countries. However, hope is one thing and political developments are another. Alertness is required and firmness is necessary.

Of course, we do not view our commitments to Sudan as burdens because Sudan is a strategic depth for Egypt and Egypt is a strategic depth for Sudan. Therefore it is part of our main responsibilities to defend Sudan's security and safety. Sudan and Egypt had been cooperating in the field of increasing Sudan's defense capabilities. After the recent aggression, the two countries decided to increase this cooperation. It is regrettable that the issue is not confined only to economic and military burdens. What is important is the diversion of attention from the issues that the Arab nation is facing, and devoting the Arab nation's resources to such side issues that exhaust their capabilities and strength. Such inter-Arab differences impose on some Arab states major problems that are not of their choice. This is regrettable and will harm all of us.

Question: What about contacts between Cairo and Damascus?

Answer: There are no contacts as such between us and Damascus. However, this does not mean that we take the opposite position from that of Syria. We believe that Arab relations should improve. We view with concern any tension between Syria and any other Arab state, particularly Iraq. Therefore, our contacts with the Arab and international sides are aimed at bridging the gaps that separate the Arab states and paving the way for improving relations among all of them.

We believe that the day will come when inter-Arab relations in the eastern and the western parts of the Arab world will be viewed in their proper perspective so that there will be no enmity between Syria and Iraq and no tension across the Syrian-Jordanian border; and so that the Arab Maghreb will not be engaged in the Sahara issue or in the relations between Libya and its Arab and African neighbors.

Cabinet Discusses Omdurman Raid, Other Issues

NC211545 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — The Council of Ministers met today under Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din. They discussed a number of issues, foremost of which was the aggression against Omdurman.

Following the 4-hour meeting, Safwat ash-Sharif, minister of state for information, said that the Council of Ministers reviewed all the military measures taken by the Armed Forces to achieve Egypt's national security, in affirmation of President Husni Mubarak's statement that Egypt will not allow any infringement up on its sovereignty or security. The Council of Ministers reviewed the external situation and the air raid against the Omdurman broadcasting station in fraternal Sudan by a Libyan aircraft.

Ash-Sharif pointed out that Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, described the aggression as rash and irresponsible and that the issue is against international relations, laws, and norms.

Ash-Sharif said the Cabinet also reviewed the measures taken by Egypt following the air raid on Omdurman. These measures began with Mubaraks' instructions to immediately send Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah to fraternal Sudan, invoking the joint defense agreement to start military coordination, and to initiate Egyptian diplomatic moves at the international level. He also said the Council of Ministers reviewed the details of the provocative acts carried out by the Libyan regime against fraternal Sudan.

Ash-Sharif continued by saying the Council of Ministers reviewed developments in Middle East issues, particularly the Lebanese issue, the Iraq-Iran war, the developments of Arab-Egyptian relations, and the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, which has begun to take a clear form, and the progress made between both sides. The Council of Ministers stressed that Egypt is doing its utmost to make the dialogue successful and boost it in the interest of the Palestinian cause. The Council of Ministers reviewed the messages exchanged between King Husayn and

President Mubarak and the recent message conveyed to King Husayn from President Mubarak by Dr Usamah al-Baz.

Ash-Sharif also said the interior minister reviewed actions by certain irresponsible forces who are attempting to instigate [the people] and to disrupt stability, as well as the role played by the national forces toward these attempts, which are aimed at distorting the democratic climate in which Egypt is living.

Foreign Minister 'Ali Warns Al-Qadhdhafi

AU201527 Rome ANSA in English 1519 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] (ANSA) Rome march 20 — Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali issued Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi with a severe warning to cease meddling in Sudanese affairs in an interview published by the Rome daily, *LA REPUBBLICA*, this morning.

Asked about the recent air attack on Khartoum, the Egyptian diplomatic chief told the newspaper that "for every action, you must have the necessary and militarily proportional deterrent".

According to 'Ali, in 1976, Al-Qadhdhafi tried to mount an operation against the Sudanese central government from the northern party of the country.

"Then, in 1983, he was planning air attacks against the radio station in Omdurman while simultaneously organizing incursions by mercenaries," the minister added. "At the time, the situation as a whole was under the Sudanese Government's full control".

Asked if he meant this was not true today, 'Ali replied: "We were worried even then.

"We requested AWACS (early warning reconnaissance) aircraft to be stationed at Aswan for some time, and that has been repeated again today.

"The problem is that Al-Qadhdhafi has the impression that the situation in Sudan is unstable, and that the same instability reigns in many other countries, but not in Libya.

"So Al-Qadhdhafi thinks he can do anything, and that nothing can stop him.
"Now, there are people who can stop him.

"As soon as Al-Qadhdhafi moved, we immediately activiated all the measures allowed for under the common defense agreements with Sudan.

"This means, above all, reinforcing Sudan's air defenses, and that is what we are doing.

"And, for the time being, that is sufficient deterrent for the action we are faced by".

Asked if Egypt was planning nothing more, 'Ali explained:"For every action, you must have the necessary and militarily proportional deterrent.

"From the diplomatic viewpoint, Sudan has already appealed to the United Nations, and we shall naturally support its application to the Security Council and all other international bodies".

Omdurman Raid Part of Al-Qhadhdhafi Soviet Link

PM211134 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 19 Mar 84 p 3

[Muhammad 'Abd al-Mun'im Murad article: "A Few Words"]

[Text] We are not warmongers and we do not advocate military adventures but we are not too weak to stop any aggressor. If we back down in the face of a rotten mad dwarf who does not stop playing with fire, then his bombs may fall on us as they have on Omdurman. That dwarf has a record. The late President as-Sadat once taught him a lesson which he has forgotten or pretends to have forgotten because he continues to sow evil throughout the world and to provoke every state in the world except the Soviet Union. Early in his reign he was hostile to the Soviet Union but he soon became a Soviet cat's paw implementing Soviet schemes and causing trouble and unrest in Africa, Asia, West Europe, Central America and South America. He thinks that he can liberate the whole world with his green book which only reflects a childish and disturbed mentality.

We are not warmongers and the Libyan people are brothers of the Egyptian and Sudanese people. Unlike him, we do not wish to interfere in the affairs of or liberate other nations, but we cannot allow this stupid boy to practice his madness in Egypt or Sudan because Egypt and Sudan complement one another and their ties cannot be broken. As I said yesterday, Sudan's security is part of Egypt's security and its future is linked to Egypt's future.
Since there is now irrefutable evidence that the aircraft which raided Omdurman with the aim of destroying its radio station was a Soviet-made Libyan aircraft which took off from Al-Kufrah airfield, we cannot remain silent on the pretext that we do not wish to engage in military battles with anyone. We are not the ones who are making war or committing aggression and provoking others. We do not devote hours of our radio transmissions to abuse and attacks on a neighboring country, its president, and people day and night.

We cannot imagine how there can be a small group among us which appeases this madman because he appeases the Soviet Union or which says: What have we got to do with Al-Qadhdhafi or Numayri? It is not a question of Al-Qadhdhafi or Numayri. The matter concerns the security and dignity of Sudan and Egypt and their people. If we remain silent in the face of this lunatic, then he will go too far and he will do it again and again.

We must open our eyes wide, take everything into consideration, and handle the matter with the necessary firmness and wisdom.

President Mubarak Addresses Message to Africa

NC211222 Cairo MENA in English 1140 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, March 21 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak said Egypt is following with great interest and understanding the diplomatic move by Mozambique and Angola.

Egypt sees that the struggle against the detested racism should continue until victory is realised.

In his message addressed to Africa on the occasion of the International Day for Combating Racial Segregation, President Mubarak affirmed that ,he diplomatic confrontation against the racist regime of South Africa requires from Africa and the whole world support not less than the support for military confrontation.

The message read out by Assistant Foreign Minister 'Umran Ash-Shafi'i on behalf of the president said that "we" in the northern part of the continent are fully aware of the fact that security in southern Africa is a strategic security for Egypt.

The president added that Egypt is part of the African Continent and that it supports the struggle of the peoples of South Africa and their national liberation movements. It denounces racial discrimination and aspires for its elimination.

Shindi Confers With Korean Commerce Minister
NC211516 Cairo MENA in English 1430 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, March 21 (MENA) — The prospects of economic cooperation between Egypt and South Korea were discussed today between Minister of Investment Affairs and International Cooperation Dr Wajih Shindi and visiting South Korean Minister of Commerce and Industry Kim Chin-Ho.

Dr Shindi briefed the Korean minister on Egypt's policies in the field of economic cooperation and investment and the measures adopted to consolidate the productive side of the open door policy. They also discussed South Korea's contribution to investment projects in Egypt. The Korean delegation expressed satisfaction over the progress achieved in Egypt to give momentum to investment, consequently to South Korea's investment activity in Egypt in view of the various advantages enjoyed in Egypt in this field mainly the political and economic stability.

Portuguese Ambassador Ends Tour of Duty
NC220946 Cairo MENA in English 0941 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, March 22 (MENA) — Portuguese Ambassador in Cairo Constantino Riberio Vaz left Cairo today for home, at the end of his 3 1/2 year tour of duty as ambassador of Portugal in Egypt.

Armed Forces Communique No 1,411 - 21 March
JN211734 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Communique No 1,411 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 21 March 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The brave soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah are continuing their valiant activities against the rancorous Khomeyniite regime's aggression in defense of great Iraq and the nation's honor and pride. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units opened fire on enemy groups that tried to approach our forward positions east of Basra. Our brave units managed to repulse and destroy the enemy groups after killing 105 troops and wounding others. The rest were forced to flee. Six enemy excavators and a number of various types of vehicles and weapons were also destroyed. A number of the enemy's serviceable equipment and weapons was seized. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of our forward units raided the enemy positions opposite our positions and managed to destroy a number of the enemy infantry positions and to hit their occupants.

2. Formations of our bold Air Force aircraft today launched strong attacks on the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the area opposite our forward units' positions east of Basra, scoring direct and effective hits. The valiant Iraqi pilots also carried out daring and effective raids on the enemy concentrations and units in the same sector, inflicting on the aggressors large losses in men, weapons, and equipment. They returned to their base safely, praise be to God. Our aircraft today carried out 140 combat missions.

3. Our capable helicopter gunships today carried out concentrated attacks on the enemy units and troop concentrations in the east of Basra and east Tigris operational sectors, scoring effective hits and destroying eight personnel concentrations and a number of weapons and equipment. All our helicopter gunships returned safely, praise be to God, after carrying out 38 combat missions.

4. Three were killed, and four infantry positions were destroyed with their occupants killed in the central sector of the battlefield.

5. One was killed, and one excavator and one weapon emplacement were destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

6. On observation post and one medium machine gun were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

7. Yesterday evening and today, the evil Khomeyniite clique shelled Basra, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, and their environs with artillery. The savage enemy shelling resulted in the martyrdom of one civilian, the injury of eight others, the destruction of one shop, and damage to one house and five civilian cars in Basra. It also caused damage to civilian property in Mandali and Zurbatiyah.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 March 1984

Government Regrets U.S. Decision on Stinger Missiles

JN211816 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Commenting on the U.S. Government's decision to withdraw its request from Congress on supplying Jordan with the Stinger antiaircraft missiles, the official spokesman said: The Jordanian Government, after being informed of this decision and its reasons, announces its strong regret of this step and considers it a measure detrimental to its capability of defending the security of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The government received notification of the decision from the U.S. Embassy in Amman this morning. It is noteworthy that Jordan presented a request to the U.S. Government 3 years ago in order to obtain these missiles as part of Jordan's efforts to bolster its legitimate defensive capabilities.

Egypt's Al-Baz Arrives for Visit 21 Mar

To Convey Mubarak Message

JN211127 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs, arrived in Amman this afternoon on a 1-day visit to Jordan. He will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

In a statement to JNA, Dr al-Baz said that the message is within the framework of continuous consultations between His Majesty King Husayn and President Mubarak on the current issues and important developments in the region, which place heavy responsibilities on our shoulders. He pointed out that the consultations between the two leaders on the region's issues have been continuous,stressing that the viewpoint of His Majesty King Husayn and President Mubarak on the situation in the region is a strategic, panoramic, and comprehensive viewpoint, especially regarding the situation in the occupied Arab territories and Lebanon, the Iraq-Iran war and its continued escalation, and the Omdurman incident.

Dr al-Baz was received by Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, and the head of the Egyptian interests section in Jordan.

Received by Husayn

JN211214 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs. Dr al-Baz conveyed to his majesty the king a message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. The message deals with recent developments of the Palestinian question in light of the recent dialogue between Jordan and the PLO, and the successive developments in the Middle East.

Message Concerns Mideast Issues

NC211804 Cairo MENA in English 1727 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Amman, March 21 (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, Egyptian first foreign under-secretary and director of President Husni Mubarak's Office for Political Affairs, said here that President Mubarak's message which he conveyed to King Husayn today centred on coordination between the two countries on reactivation of the efforts for settling the Palestine issue.

He added that the Palestine issue has gained more urgency in view of the recent negotiations between King Husayn and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Dr al-Baz said that the message also dealt with the need for international efforts to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war, as well as a detailed account on the recent aggression on the Sudan and its repercussions on the area.

Dr al-Baz is due to leave Amman tomorrow for Cairo.

All Arabs Called To Support Country's Stand

JN220901 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 22 Mar 84 p 1

[Editorial: "The United States, the Arabs, and Jordan"]

[Text] Jordan has announced its stand toward the United States and its policy in general, and toward our conflict with the Zionist enemy in particular. Jordan directed its message, through King Husayn's statements to *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, and other international media, not only to the U.S. Administration and the American people, but also to Arab leaders and people. King Husayn noted that the United States has lost its credibility, and as an ally to Israel that it is motivated by Zionist inspirations, it cannot be dealt with as a mediator.

Jordan announced its stand toward the United States proceeding from its national affiliation to its nation's destiny, existence, and common danger. Jordan expressed the opinion and conscience of the Arabs. The path of action toward the Arab nation's higher interests in obvious. Jordan has always followed this path without slogans or ambiguity.

Yesterday, the U.S. Government decided to withdraw a request to supply Jordan with Stinger missiles. Such a decision is detrimental to the capability of defending the Kingdom's security, and the Arab capability of defending the nation's security. Jordan does not only defend itself, but also defends the Arab homeland against the expansionist and aggressive Zionist danger. The Arabs have been neglecting their interests for a long time. How can the Arabs leave Jordan to face the United States and Israel alone? Does the pan-Arab duty not call on all the Arabs to support Jordan in order to provide the elements that will render this pan-Arab battle a success, and to employ all potentials for the higher pan-Arab interests?

Some Arabs can put pressure on the United States as Jordan is doing. Many Arabs, especially those who control a great part of U.S. economic interests, have influence in the White House and its departments. Some Arabs can employ their regional and

international positions to show the United States that Jordan is not alone in the arena. In clearer and franker terms, the Arabs who adopt the position of observer are standing to the side of the United States and do not want Jordan to announce its opinion clearly and frankly regarding Washington's stands and policies toward the conflict with the enemy. As Jordan is confronting the United States, the Arabs are called upon to relinquish their negative positions toward any fraternal country which is in confrontation with a foreign country.

Comment Supports Husayn's Recent Statements

'Pessimistic Omen' For U.S.

JN212029 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has for the third time addressed world public opinion to familiarize it with regionaldevelopments in light of aggressive Israeli practices and the continuing U.S. support for Israel.

In an interview with the BBC, his Majesty King Husayn again stressed that the Israeli practices, which are carried out by military force based on U.S. aid, have caused United States credibility to reach its worst state with regard to the Arab human being.

The most serious matter disclosed by His Majesty King Husayn was the inclination of U.S. policy to adopt and support the Israeli stand on the Palestinian question by considering it a question of people and not one of land.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz admitted yesterday the failure of his country's policy in the Middle East despite President Reagan's assertion on the same day in an interview with the French newspaper *LE MONDE* that he was trying to encourage peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors through defining a three-point U.S. Middle East policy.

These contradictory statements, which range between admitting failure and affirming the presence of attempts to establish peace can only mean that U.S. Middle East policy is greatly confused and mortgaged to the will of Israel and its aggressive, expansionist ambitions in the region.

The situation in the region has reached an impasse because of the bias of U.S. policy toward Israel. The reverberations of the U.S. position that supports the aggressive expansionist Israeli policy affect the countries of the region in such a way that it causes the U.S. to lose its credibility with the peoples of the Middle East.

In the face of these facts that King Husayn has expressed in his three interviews since last Thursday, the U.S. Administration — if it wants to preserve friendly relations with Arab moderates — must look for other political options different from those options that are mortgaged to the aggressive Israeli strategy in the region.

The United States, by adopting aggressive and expansionist Israeli in the region, will leave the Arabs with only on option — which is to seek alternatives to restore the logical balance to the situation that has been upset due to the continued and complete U.S. bias toward Israel.

Will the U.S. Administration understand the message sent by King Husayn, which carries a very pessimistic omen for the interests of the United States in the region, or will the presidential elections leave no time for the U.S. Administration to pause and reconsider?

U.S. Policy Wasted Effort

JN191134 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Mar 84 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "Another Message From King Husayn"]

[Text] In an interview with the American television network CBS yesterday, his majesty again stressed three points that govern the policy of the United States. These are its inability, its vagueness, and its weakness.

When the policy of a superpower is characterized by such traits, this state cannot expect others to have faith in its credibility or, its desire to assume its responsibility toward the peace and stability of the world and toward the values and principles for which humanity has made great and long sacrifices.

His majesty's interview with the American television network came as an assertion to everything he had said to the *NEW YORK TIMES* and an assertion that Jordan cannot keep up with others in their contempt for values and principles or in using these values and principles for objectives other than the honorable ones which constitute the essence of these principles and values even if these others were a superpower. Jordan cannot give Washington another chance after all the opportunities it has had; opportunities which proved to be a framework for implementing an Israeli-U.S. policy that completely ignored the peace and security of the world and all the principles and charters in which the international community believes.

Nations and people are evaluated on the basis of thier ability to carry the message and defend their honor and rights, and his majesty certainly asserted the value of our people and nation through his frank answer that Jordan has not only faced challenges and difficulties, but has also emerged stronger and more noble and has not bent in face of the storms, threats, and dangers.

The United States' weakness and complete capitulation to the Zionist groups in the United States has led us to this result which King Husayn described as a U.S. position which has chosen to move away from friends and wide interests in the region.

The settlement policy which is being carried out with U.S. money and aid attempts to achieve an objective that violates international legality and all the principles and values that Washington has always asserted its concern for, abidance by, and preparedness to defend. But what is true is that Zionist interests and the U.S. weakness toward those interests has landed the United States, as a superpower, in this internationally condemned role.

Standing by aggression is standing against peace; standing by expansion is standing against international principles and legitimacy, and support for the policy of Judaizing land and expelling its inhabitants is a humiliation of the U.S. role and reveals the extent of the U.S. concern for all that it has declared since the Second World War.

The crux of the crisis in the Middle East is the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. If the Zionist enemy and the United States persist in rejecting this fact, then all the attempts to seek a settlement through the U.S. method will remain wasted effort as far as the Arabs are concerned, and an effort that will serve the Zionist schemes and expansionist course.

The door that will remain open is that which will take the crisis back to its natural place in the United Nations. If this international body also proves unable to stop the aggression on Arab lands and rights, then it is certain that this nation will find no alternative but to exploit its inherent potential, and capabilities to face the enemy alliance with the necessary courage and sacrifice.

This is the road that the peoples of the world have been used to going through and perhaps Washington knows this fact more than anybody else.

U.S. Support Zionist 'Lifeline'

JN210953 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Missing U.S. Wisdom," *AR-RA'Y* says: For the third time in a week, His Majesty King Husayn reiterated that the U.S. credibility has reached its worst state. In a statement to the BBC yesterday, His Majesty King Husayn was concerned that Washington does not want to admit the seriousness of this situation and its effect on stability in the Middle East, and stability and peace in the whole world.

AR-RA'Y adds: The United States waged military, political, and economic battles under the guise of defending human rights, peoples' rights, and the principles of justice and freedom. However, a single glance at U.S. dealings with the Palestinian question indicates that Washington has stood against all these values and has given political support and cover for all Zionist actions against the Palestinian land and people and their right to freedom, justice, and equality.

AR-RA'Y adds: The Zionist enemy, which deals with the Palestinian question as a question of people and not of territory, has received frank U.S. support and understanding in this regard, as His Majesty King Husayn stressed in his three recent statements. The continuation of the military, material, and political support for the Zionist institution proves that the United States seeks to implement the written Zionist plans through suyperiority and arrogance. From now on, no one or no side is allowed to call on us to trust Washington's credibility as long as we sense the strategic alliance between U.S. and Zionist words and deeds. If we add to all this the fact that U.S. support is the Zionist institution's lifeline, we will realize that stopping the Zionist madness is not U.S. impotence but lack of desire to use pressure to serve right, justice, peace, and stability.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Although we fully realize that our battle with the Zionist entity is a battle of destiny and existence, and that supremacy based on changes is soon affected when these changes occur, we call on Washington to care about its interests and those of the American people, and about the minimum level that must continue between the Arab and American nations, because Washington's option for directly or indirectly fighting against us from the Zionist trench is an option that lacks wisdom, farsightedness, and real discernment of the future dimensions, chantes, and its fierce wars in defense of the land and dignity.

U.S. Officials, Area Involvement Criticized

'Mumbo-Jumbo' Policy

JN191100 Amman JORDAN TIMES In English 19 Mar 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Congratulations, Boys"]

[Text] It's that time of year again, folks, when the *JORDAN TIMES* hand out its annual awards for remarkable human achievements in various fields of public interest. We are pleased to announce that the 1983 *JORDAN TIMES* Award for Mumbo- Jumbo Beyond the Call of Duty is hereby awarded to Mr. John Hughes, spokesman for the United States State Department, who remarked about the interview of King Husayn with the *NEW YORK TIMES* last week: "The forces of extremism and terrorism are complicating the situation in the region, increasing the risks to moderates who contemplate joining the peace process."

We also wish to confer a distinguished Service Award for Mumbo-Jumbo Beyond the Call of Duty to United States White House Spokesman Larry Speakes, who said for his part that Arab countries "are certainly subjected to a number of influences," not the least of which is "the threat of terrorism that hangs over the entire region."

We suggest that both of these men have missed the point of what makes Arabs run, for to suggest that King Husayn has strongly called into question America's credibility as a mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict, because he fears terror and extremism is perhaps the zenith of American misperceptions and miscomprehension in the Middle East.

Yes, there is terrorism and extremism in the area, but from where we stand these days we see a considerable amount of it coming out of Washington. There is the intellectual terrorism of a nation called America that gave the world the principle of national self-determination, but refuses to apply it to the Palestinians, a nation whose own pledge of allegiance claims that freedom is indivisible while it pursues a policy in the Middle East that guarantees the Palestinians will not be free in the near future.

There is the extremism of a United States Government that claims to object to Israeli settlements in occupied Arab lands, but that increases its aid, to Israel and thereby helps Israel finance

more settlements, and the extremism of an American nation that claims to value liberty while if finances the political disenfranchisement of the Palestinian by giving Israel $2.5 billion in aid every year.

America speaks with a false passion, yet when its friends speak honestly to it, it only replies with fantasy. Is this the land of the free? Or the land of the forked tongue?

'Arar Returns From Baghdad, Makes Statement

JN210659 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister, has said that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn asked him to convey his greetings and those of the Iraqi people to His Majesty King Husayn and the Jordanian people for Jordan's stand toward supporting Iraq in its honorable confrontation of the Iranian aggression against the Arab nation.

In a statement to a PETRA correspondent this evening upon returning to Amman with an accompanying delegation following an official visit to fraternal Iraq, 'Arar said that he conveyed to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn the greetings and congratulations of His Majesty King Husayn on the great victories the Iraqi Army has achieved over the Iranian enemy in the recent battles.

During the visit, 'Arar signed an agreement for fixing the Iraqi-Jordanian borders. He said that the agreement will go through the constitutional stages in the two countries and that copies of the agreement will be exchanged in Amman within the next few weeks.

Trade, Tourism Minister Returns From Iraq

JN211549 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Amman, 21 Mar (PETRA) — Dr Jawad al-'Anani, industry, trade, and tourism minister, has announced that commercial and economic cooperation between Jordan and Iraq will witness greater development in the near future.

In a statement to a PETRA correspondent upon his return from Baghdad today, Al-'Anani said that an Iraqi commecial delegation will visit Amman next week to define the industrial products that Iraq will import from Jordan in accordance with commercial protocol between the two countries. He added that consultations are underway to increase trade exchanges between the two countries.

He described his talks in Iraq as positive and said that new ideas for increasing commercial and oil cooperation between the two countries were discussed during these talks. He praised the Iraqi technical expertise being presented to Jordan in the field of oil exploration.

Al'Anani said that during his 6-day visit, he had met with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan and conveyed a verbal message to him from Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, dealing with economic cooperation between the two countries.

He also met with Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, who informed him of Iraq's agreement to supply Jordan with the chaff required for cattle and poultry.

Reaction to Lausanne Lebanon Talks Reported

Salam Comments

NC211731 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Former Speaker 'Adil 'Usayran; former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam; presidential adviser Muhammad Shuqayr; and Press Association Chairman Muhammad al-Ba'labakki returned to Beirut this afternoon from Lausanne. Speaking to newsmen after his arrival, Prime Minister Salam said:

[Begin recording] [Salam] I am sorry that the results of the dialogue conference have disappointed the citizens. I do not think that it was possible to achieve more than what we achieved. What matters is implementation. In view of the determination I sensed among the conference participants to implement the resolutions, I hope that this time we will be able to achieve a satisfactory result.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, what happened with regard to the formation of a national unity government?

[Salam] This will be the next step after the implementation of what we have decided.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, is it possible to say that a long truce will take place in Lebanon?

[Salam] Why say truce? Say that this is the start of security and stability.

[Reporter] Why didn't the conference deal with the issue of the detainees and those kidnapped?

[Salam] The conferees indeed often dealt with this issue, and decisions were made in this regard.

[Reporter] The final statement did not contain...

[Salam interrupts] The statement should not necessarily contain a reference to this. The statement was brief, as you have noticed. It did not refer to many things which took place at the conference.

[Reporter] Is there anything you want to say to the Lebanese people today after your return from Lausanne?

[Salam] I want everyone to cooperate. I want the warring parties to realize that they will destroy Lebanon if they continue fighting. It is the duty of all Lebanon's citizens to prevent harm from coming to Lebanon. I urge them all to come to their senses. I call on them all to stop the shelling, the sniper fire, and the harmful information campaigns which are perhaps more deadly than guns and rockets. I sensed determination among the conference participants to implement what was decided during the conference. If this happens, we will, God willing, achieve our objective.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, what will be the future of relations with Syria after the Lausanne conference?

[Salam] Relations with Syria were progressing well even before the Lausanne conference. Everyone must realize that there can be no stability and security in Lebanon without good relations with fraternal Syria, and vice versa. We have always said that what harms Lebanon also harms Syria, and what benefits Lebanon also benefits Syria. Let us act on this basis. [end recording]

Lebanese Forces' Spokesman

NC211600 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Na'um Farah, official spokesman of the Lebanese Forces Command and head of the Lebanese Forces' External Relations Department, holds the Syrians responsible for the failure of the Lausanne conference.

Farah said: Syria would no longer have a role to play in Lebanon if a reconciliation had been achieved among the Lebanese. He added: The so-called results of the conference are inconsistent with the aspirations of the great majority of the Lebanese, particularly the Christians. We support the cease-fire and its consolidation, but we will remain in a state of preparedness to retaliate if our children, women and areas are hit by shellfire.

The Lebanese Forces Command spokesman pointed out that the choice is purely Lebanese; it is neither Arab nor Israeli. He said: We think that the solution lies in the establishment of a federal system that would enable each community to live in peace, freedom and progress, in harmony with the other community. He said the Lausanne conference did not fail because of the difference between generations, as Mr Walid Junblatt has said. Our contacts with the Progressive Socialist Party have actually begun. We are about to embark on a new stage of contacts with the Amal Movement as well. We will always be prepared to undertake such contacts provided the cease-fire remains in effect. Farah added: We are also prepared to negotiate with any side — even with the Communist Party — if the security situation remains calm, because dialogue will be useless under the shadow of guns.

In reply to a question about reports concerning the formation of an inquiry committee to bring the army to account on charges of destroying the southern suburb, he said: The one who caused the events in the southern suburb is the one who carried out acts of aggression against the Lebanese Army, which, like all armies, has a duty to respond to the sources of fire in order to silence them. We must not put the army in the dock every time it carries out its duties. Asked his opinion about making the army neutral, he said: If we make the army neutral, then what would be the purpose of the army, and what does making it neutral mean?

Lebanese Forces Commander Comments

NC211911 [Clandestine] Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Fadi Afram, commander of the Lebanese Forces, has answered two questions posed to him by our correspondent:

[Begin recording][Reporter] The Lausanne conference has ended and there have been certain reactions. Through their steadfast stance, the Lebanese Forces have been a main factor, although they were absent from the Lausanne conference. Today, the people are waiting to learn from Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Aftam the stance regarding the recommendations adopted.

[Aftam] Our main stance regarding the Lausanne conference has stemmed from our conviction that the dialogue among the Lebanese and the building of a new Lebanon cannot be done in Lausanne under Syrian trusteeship. Frankly, we did not expect any better results. We did not expect that it would be possible to create a new Lebanon through this dialogue and all the consultations held under that atmosphere. The failure of the 1943 structure of Lebanon has finally become permanent today. The creation of a new Lebanon can only be achieved through a dialogue among the Lebanese without any pressure or foreign interference. It must be held in Lebanon among the Lebanese so that a new Lebanon can be created.

One basic thing that was achieved at Lausanne is the cease-fire which, God willing, will be a lasting one. The Lebanese Forces' stance will be that of supporting the cease-fire. We will do everything possible for the success of the cease-fire. In fact, all our people are tired, our economy and our daily life is strained. A cease-fire is needed. We will do our best for its success. The Lebanese citizen needs a period of rest; he needs to turn to normal living; schools must be reopened; and the economic life must be restored. The coming phase will be that of determining the Lebanon of the future. This must be made in a secure atmosphere free from any pressure. This will be the only course that will ensure the building of a new Lebanon.

[Reporter] Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri have said that next time they would prefer to hold a dialogue with the Lebanese Forces in the field. What is the Lebanese Forces' answer to the hand now extended?

[Aftam] We have no objection to any dialogue or to any negotiations with the Lebanese. However, these negotiations, in order to be successful, must be with and among the Lebanese without any foreign pressure. I am optimistic of the future of Lebanon after this difficult phase which it has passed through. I am optimistic that a new Lebanon will emerge — a Lebanon which will ensure for all the Lebanese and for all the Lebanese sects their security, freedom and sect. I am optimistic that this can be ensured. I am optimistic that we can reach in a not too distant time a new Lebanon, as we desire. [end recording]

Pierre al-Jumayyil Wants 'Goodwill'

NC211817 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Lebanese delegations have left Lausanne and some have arrived in Beirut. The first to arrive in Lebanon tonight was Phalangist Party Leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and the delegation accompanying him, which is made up of Deputy George Sa'adah and Joseph Abu Khalil. They were welcomed by Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Aftam and party officials, including Dr Elie Karami and Joseph Sa'adah.

After disembarking from the helicopter in Juniyah Port, Shaykh Pierre said that all that has been agreed upon in Lausanne needs goodwill to translate it into positive deeds. He added that the Chamber of Deputies is the only legitimate institution which can decide on any amendment or change to the Lebanese system.

Shi'ite Leader 'Regrets' Outcome

NC211503 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, today expressed his regret over the results achieved by the National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne.

He said he was expecting this result, but still had hoped the outcome would have been better than what was achieved. He expressed surprise at the conferees' failure to deal with the main issue, which is the Israeli occupation. He asked: What will the interlocutors do with regard to the south during the next 6 months?

Al-Jumayyil, Nabih Birri Visit France for Talks

For French-source reportage on the meeting in Paris between Shi'ite leader Nabih Birri and French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson and their talks on the French Government's decision to remove its troops from Lebanon, Birri's meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand, and the meeting between Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and Mitterrand, see the France section of the 22 March Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Birri Assesses Lausanne Conference

NC212017 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] In a statement to newsmen after meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand at the Elysee Palace this evening, Amal Movement Leader Nabih Birri expressed the opinion that if the Lausanne conference did not succeed, neither did it fail. He described the conflict in Lebanon as being between two generations: the first generation belongs to the mentality of 1943, and the second is the new generation which wants to modernize the country according to its aspirations.

In the opinion of Birri, the Lausanne conference resolutions are considered as the first step in the 1,000 mile march toward building the Lebanon of the future — the Lebanon of tomorrow. He affirmed that Lebanon is in the process of establishing a new constitution, pointing out that the abolition of sectarianism is a popular demand.

Birri Interviewed on Lausanne

JN212124 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2042 GMT 21 Mar 84

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, whom President Mitterrand received this evening for 1 hour, made the following statement to colleague George Qurdahi following the meeting:

[Begin recording] [Qurdahi] Mr Nabih, what was the nature of your talks with the president?

[Nabih Birri] It was an honor for me to be received by the French president and it was a very happy occasion. I seized this opportunity to discuss with him the source of problems in Lebanon. By this, I mean the problem of southern Lebanon and the way to liberate it, as well as the means which can rescue the south and subsequently rescue Lebanon, considering the south the key to the solution. From the south, the first spark began and with it the Lebanese war will die out, I believe — God willing.

We proposed bolstering and strenthening UNIFIL via the UN Security Council and giving this force the necessary power in order to play its role and implement Resolution No. 425 issued by the United Nations in 1978, as you know. I got the French president's approval of this suggestion. He promised to support it for the sake of increasing the number of UNIFIL in the south and giving it the necessary effectiveness.

During the talks, we touched on the subject of Lausanne. I think that optimism has begun to take its course in the Lebanese life. This means that today we began to live an age of [word indistinct], starting with the charting of a new constitution for the future Lebanon, as we said in Lausanne. This means that we should give up the old system which deprived the Lebanese of their rights as citizens, and place Lebanon on the threshold of the future by considering all the Lebanese equal in rights and duties. The real guarantee for every Lebanese will have then been ensured. The Lebanese will then be linked to his homeland through the bond of citizenship, and not the bond of sectarianism, as was the case before.

[Qurdahi] Do you not think that the Lausanne conference has failed?

[Birri] I think that the Lausanne conference has neither failed nor succeeded. It fixed a beginning, indicating that the old era has been terminated and that the new era has begun, and will begin. Moreover, during my talks with President Mitterrand I also touched on the Iraqi-Iranian war — a subject that has to be reconsidered. Opinions were almost in agreement. He has indeed received me with lavish kindness and love. It is, in fact, love for Lebanon, and a French desire to maintain Lebanon's unity, and keep Lebanon sovereign, free, Arab and independent. [end recording]

Agreement Said To Include Syrian Deployment

NC211757 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The Central News Agency quoted well informed political sources as saying that some practical steps in the security field have been reached during the Lausanne Conference. These include:

1. The redeployment of the Syrian Deterrent Force in West Beirut to maintain law and order, and to support the Internal Security Forces in removing any armed manifestations, and
2. The deployment of Syrian forces in 'Alayh and the mountain area to help the legitimate Lebanese authorities restore their control over these areas, thus enabling the evacuees to return to their homes.

Al-Wazzan Reportedly Suspends Army Enlistment

NC211616 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The SUHUFIYAH NEWS AGENCY reported that Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has contacted the Lebanese Army command and asked it to suspend all enlistment in the army and to not supply any army units with weapons and ammunition under any circumstances.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan justified his request to suspend army enlistment by saying that the army will be the subject of discussion with regard to its size and structure in the coming stage. He said the present circumstances do not permit the continuation of enlistment both from the financial and military standpoints. Al-Wazzan also justified his request not to supply the army units with arms and ammunition by expressing the fear that the gunmen would seize them and use them to aggravate the situation.

Prime Minister's Authority Questioned

NC211746 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has hastened to apply the Lausanne conference's recommendations in an attempt to catch up with former Prime Ministers Karami and Salam in the Islamic arena. The SUHUFIYAH NEWS AGENCY reported that Prime Minister al-Wazzan has contacted the Lebanese Army command to ask it to suspend all enlistment in the army and not to supply any army units with weapons or ammunition under any circumstances.

A source in the Lebanese Army command has outlined that the prime minister has no authority over the army. The army has its commander and its defense minister, and the army has the president, who is the army's supreme commander.

Junblatt Wants Agreement With Lebanese Forces

NC220629 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] In London, Walid Junblatt has said he hopes that from now on Lebanon's future will be charted by the new generation. An agreement should be reached, Junblatt said, with those whom we are fighting on the ground, namely the Lebanese Forces. At any rate, he added, the ones who die are us and them.

In an interview with British television, Junblatt expressed his regret that President al-Jumayyil does not wield enough power to reach a solution to the Lebanese problem.

Security Committee Fails To Agree on Meeting

NC211440 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Radio of Independent Nasirite Movement — Al-Murabitun]

[Excerpts] Amid the deteriorating security situation, the Security Arrangements Committee, like the dialogue conference in Lausanne, has failed to agree on a minimum program to consolidate the cease-fire. The contacts have so far produced nothing new with regard to setting the venue and time of the committee's meeting.

Ayyub Humayyid, the Amal representative in the Security Arrangements Committee, has told the Voice of Arab Lebanon that nothing new has taken place with regard to the committee meeting. He said no agreement has been reached on the venue of the meeting. Contacts are underway to deal with this matter and to consolidate the cease-fire. He pointed out that if the committee meets, it will discuss the question of the disengagement of forces and the recruitment of retired security officers to assist in this matter.

As for the airport and seaport, Humayyid affirmed that there is no serious talk about the airport and seaport. Several impossible conditions have been set by the other side for reopening the airport and the seaport simultaneously.

Intermittent Clashes Reported in West Beirut

NC221049 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Security reports say Socialist forces supported by Amal Movement gunmen have detained some [Independent Nasirite Movement] Al-Murabitun gunmen and have taken them to the Jall al-Bahr barracks.

There are intermittent clashes in the Saqiyat al-Janzir area — where one of the most important strongholds of the Al-Murabitun is located — between the Al-Murabitun and the attacking Junblattist gunmen and their Amal Movement supporters. The Amal Movement is still encircling the Sabra and Shatila camps. Presently, intermittent clashes are being fought in Burj Abu Haydar with rockets and medium and heavy machine guns.

Al-Murabitun Lose Last Stronghold

NC220903 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] The Amal Movement has gained control over most of West Beirut after seizing the last stronghold of the [Independent Nasirite Movement] Al-Murabitun in Saqiyat al-Janzir. The Amal Movement is manning roadblocks across West Beirut and detaining Sunnites. Gunfire and rocket explosions are still being heard in the area. According to preliminary estimates, well over 40 casualties occurred as a result of the clashes.

Amal 'Besieging' Palestinian Camps

NC220839 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] The latest security report from West Beirut says that the Amal Movement's gunmen are presently besieging the Palestinian camps, particularly those of Sabra and Shatila. This is in order to cut off Palestinian military support from the [Independent Nasirite Movement] Al-Murabitun. The Al-Murabitun have retreated to the inner sections of the Sunnite areas in Al-Basta and Burj Abu Haydar.

Earlier, the Amal Movement gained full control over the Arab League and 'Abd an-Nasir mosque areas, as well as over most of the West Beirut districts. The Amal Movement is now manning roadblocks across Al-Qantarah, Al-Hamra and 'Ayn al-Muraysah, where its personnel are kidnapping Sunnites.

Already the Amal Movement has taken over most of the Al-Murabitun's emplacements and occupied the house of their leader, Ibrahim Qulaylat, in Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda'. Security reports say that many dead and wounded fell on both sides. Bursts of gunfire are still heard across the streets of West Beirut, particularly in Corniche al-Mazra'ah, Al-Barbir and Saqiyat al-Janzir.

It is noteworthy that the Amal Movement is trying to involve the Socialists in this operation in order to avoid giving it the tint of a Sunnite-Shi'ite conflict. According to security sources, however, the operation is intended to secure Shi'ite supremacy in traditionally Sunnite areas.

Further on Amal's Operations

NC221123 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Since 1200, Amal Movement gunmen have been storming houses in Corniche al-Mazra'ah and Tal'at Abu Shakir in a search for [Independent Nasirite Movement] Al-Murabitun gunmen. Other gunmen have stormed the Al-Barbir Hospital and kidnapped some of Al-Murabitun's wounded personnel.

Meanwhile, tension eased relatively after the Amal movement's gunmen had tightened their grip on most of the Al-Murabitun's positions in West Beirut. As a Palestinian patrol consisting of five gunmen was crossing Burj al-Barajinah before noon in a military vehicle, Amal Movement gunmen opened fire on it, killing all

five. In the Arab League area, there has been violent hand to hand fighting with knives resulting in scores of casualties on both sides.

Earlier, Amal Movement gunmen stormed Ibrahim Qulaylat's residence in Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda' following a battle that lasted about a half-hour and claimed an unknown number of casualties. Following this operation, the Amal Movement's gunmen fired three RPG shells at the house and then handed it over to the Junblatt men. The latter were afterwards seen driving around in vehicles, one of which carried the inscription: The Kayfun Forces Group.

125 Reported Killed

NC221010 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Preliminary news from West Beirut idicates that about 125 persons have been wounded or killed. The list of casualties runs as follows: 42 casualties in Tariq al-Jadid; 7 in Al-Hamra; 32 in Tal'at Abu Shakir in Corniche al-Mazra'ah; 14 in Saqiyat al-Janzir; and 9 in Farun ar-Rawshah. Eight gunmen belonging to Shaykh 'Abd al-Hafiz Qasim were wounded — the fate of the Shaykh himself is still unknown.

It was also reported that Ibrahim Qulaylat's family has been kidnapped and taken to an unknown destination following the attack on Qulaylat's residence in Ar-Rawshah.

Voice of Arab Lebanon Silenced

NC220655 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Tension prevails across West Beirut following a night of clashes and house-storming between the Socialists and their aides on the one hand, and the [Independent Nasirite Movement] Al-Murabitun on the other.

We have received reports that the Socialists and their aides managed to control the Al-Murabitun's emplacements extending from Al-Barbir to Verdun, including the main [Al-Murabitun] center in the 'Abd al-Nasir mosque. The Al-Murabitun's [Voice of Arab Lebanon] radio stopped its broadcast at 0630 and 0730 today.

Palestinian Fighters Given 'Ultimatum'

NC220938 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] A short while ago, the Amal Movement warned the Palestinians to hand over all their weapons before 1800 today; otherwise it would attack their camps. The Amal Movement is disseminating this ultimatum through loudspeakers placed throughout the camps.

Meanwhile, the Sabra and Shatila camps have been cordoned off by armored vehicles.

Israelis Conclude Maneuvers in South Region

NC211907 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The Israeli forces have concluded large-scale maneuvers in the eastern sector of southern Lebanon, during which armored units, air defenses and helicopters took part. It was reported that the maneuvers lasted 2 days, during which Israeli warplanes used Sahl al-Khiyam airfield, which the Israelis had repaired and put into operation.

Syria's Al-Asad Reportedly Suffers Heart Attack

JN221132 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1100 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] According to the magazine (?*DAILY WORD*), President Hafiz al-Asad suffered a heart attack today [sentence as heard]. The Saudi magazine *AL-MAJALLAH* said that the differences between Rif'at al-Asad and Deputy Prime Minister Mustafa Talas are worsening the president's condition.

Al-Wazzan Receives Cable From Syrian Prime Minister

NC211733 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has received a cable from Syrian Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm in reply to his cable of congratulations on the formation of the new Syrian Cabinet. The text of the cable is as follows:

Your Excellency, Brother Shafiq al-Wazzan, Prime Minister of the Lebanese Republic,
Thank you for your congratulations on the occasion of the formation of the new Cabinet in the Syrian Arab Republic. While appreciating your true sentiments, I pray to almighty God to direct our steps for the good of our Arab nation. I wish you good health and happiness.

British Council Building Damaged by Bomb 22 Mar

NC220820 Paris AFP in English 0816 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Beirut, March 22 (AFP) — The British Council building in West Beirut was damaged early today by a bomb thrown from a passing car, police said. There were no casualties from the blast. The British Council is a worldwide network of cultural centers run by the British Government.

Italian Consul Kidnapped, Released in Beirut

NC220736 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Gunmen kidnapped Italy's consul to Lebanon at 0800 in Saqiyat al-Janzir in West Beirut. They took him to Mahallat ar-Ramlah al-Bayda' only to release him after stealing his Fiat automobile.

Al-Asad Receives Algerian Envoy, Message

JN211319 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1100 today Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Algerian foreign minister and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's personal envoy. Attending the meeting were Faruq ash-Shar', foreign minister; and Salih Boujoumaa, Algerian ambassador in Damascus.

President al-Asad received from Ibrahimi a message from the Algerian president on the situation in the region. Al-Asad asked him to convey a reply message and greetings to his brother President Bendjedid and fraternal Algerian people.

Ibrahimi Statement, Departure

JN211521 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1445 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 21 Mar (SANA) — Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi left Damascus for Riyadh this afternoon following a 2-day visit during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad and held talks with Foreign Minister Fariq ash-Shar'.

In a statement before his departure, Dr Ibrahimi said that his visit to Syria was part of the continuous coordination and consultation between the two fraternal countries' officials regarding the various current affairs and issues.

He added that he met with President Hafiz al-Asad and conveyed to him a message from his Brother President Chadli Bendjedid, and that talks dealt with the most important issues facing the Arab nation and the means to deal with them and reach both radical and fruitful solutions to them.

Concluding, Dr Ibrahimi said: It was decided to continue meetings and consultations between the two countries' leaders in the interest of our Arab nation.

Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar', senior Foreign Ministry officials, and the Algerian and Saudi ambassadors in Damascus saw him off at Damascus International Airport.

Al-Kasm Receives Lebanese Communists

JN211326 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] At 1200 today, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party, and Nadim 'Abd as-Samad and George al-Batal, members of the party's Political Bureau. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the circumstances surrounding the national and popular struggle in Lebanon and the region and the responsibilities of the national forces and parties for confronting U.S. imperialism, resisting the Israeli occupation, and facing the reactionary plans in the region.

During the meeting, both sides also stressed Syria's liberating and progressive role under President Struggler Hafiz al-Asad, a role that is considered a strong base for Arab steadfastness and for attracting and supporting the popular masses' struggle for their principal objectives. Dr al-Kasm and Hawi also touched on the various issues partaining to the current events in the Lebanese arena and the situation in the region.

Khaddam Returns From Lausanne Conference

JN211459 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 21 Mar (SANA) — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus this afternoon from Geneva after taking part in the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference held in Lausanne, Switzerland.

AL-BA'TH Comments on Husayn Anti-U.S. Statements

PM211202 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 18 Mar 84 p 3

[Ilyas Khury article: "King Husayn, A Cry in a Valley"]

[Text] Has King Husayn realized that the failure of the U.S. policy in the region is bound to reflect on him and on regimes such as his in the area? Is that what brought on his outcry against the United States, his criticism of its policy, and his warning that it would lose more ground and more friends if it continued to pursue that policy?

Some people maintain that the Jordanian monarch's statements are an indication of his great dissatisfaction with U.S. policy and his conviction that the United States should have kept its promise to settle the Middle East question and put pressure on Israel to force it to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories and recognize some of the Palestinian people's rights. The United States has failed and has broken all its promises and pledges, if there really were any such promises and pledges.

These statements would have been more convincing if they had come from a new Arab official in the political arena and not from someone who has had strong relations and long experience with the United States and its policies. They are very unconvincing coming from King Husayn, who has been controlling Jordan for over 30 years and who would not have been able to remain in power for so long had he not linked himself and his regime tightly to the U.S. wheel and placed Jordan and all its resources at the service of Washington's strategy in the region.

King Husayn's statements seem strange as he talks about U.S. credibility, ethics, unlimited support for Israel, failure to implement the Reagan plan, and disregard for the rights of the Arab and Palestinian people, as if he had really believed throughout his 30 years in power that the United States was really neutral regarding the Arabs and Israel and that it really wanted to establish peace in the Middle East. He seems to have overlooked certain facts which he himself knows better than anyone else. One such fact is that Israel was created by an American decision, has managed to survive as a result of an American decision, and has committed aggressions, launched wars, and wrought death and destruction in the region by an American decision.

Why did Husayn choose this particular time to make these statements? Did he really suddenly discover that the United States has lost its credibility and that it only carries out Israel's policy in the area, or does he now realize that the failure and impotence of the U.S. policy could only mean that the end of America's regimes in the region is not far off and that those who have deliberately and resolutely linked themselves to it against the will and aspirations of their people will be the first to pay the price of that failure?

King Husayn's statements would have been convincing if he had said he would reconsider Jordan's policies and links with the United States. His, however, was a cry in a valley by a regime which has discovered its bankruptcy and that there is nothing it can give or take anymore. This is the position of all America's regimes in the region.

AL-BA'TH on Syrian Objective of Lebanon's Accord

JN220949 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Before and After the Lausanne Conference, Syria's Strategic Objective Has Been Lebanese National Accord," *AL-BA'TH* says: The Lausanne and Geneva conferences have proven that the only way to save Lebanon is through dialogue. These conferences have also proved that keeping the doors open for dialogue and agreements that will stop destruction and killing and save the homeland from a bloodbath mean that achieving the Lebanese national accord is not impossible. When Syria announced through its leader comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad that the Lebanese national accord is its strategic objective, it did so because it realizes that Lebanon's enemies are working to destroy that country and prevent national reconciliation.

Hence, the success of the Lebanese coexistence formula is in fact a blow to the Zionist entity's idea that depends on religious and racial discrimination and aims at establishing factional entities revolving in Israel's orbit, helping to strengthen its racist position in the region.

Thus, Syria strategically believes that a unified Lebanon is beneficial to the Lebanese and Syrian people, as well as to the Arab nation. In accordance with its pan-Arab principles, Syria believes that the Lebanese people are an Arab people whose national interests converge with the national interests of Syria and the Arab nation.

Syria will continue to help the Lebanese brothers achieve national reconciliation which will end the civil war, and open the path for reforms which will achieve equality and guarantee the continuation of the formula of coexistence, understanding, and unity among all the Lebanese factions. Syria's concern about the Lebanese affairs is not interference in Lebanon's international affairs. Lebanon's enemies are the only ones who explain Syria's concern as interference. Such concern is a natural outcome of both countries' relations, interests, and security.

Syria cannot remain silent while seeing this fraternal country set on fire or becoming a base for imperialism to move toward Syria and the other Arab countries.

AL-BA'TH concludes: In Syria, we know that the hostile parties and those who are revolving in their orbit do not want Lebanon to achieve national accord, but want the war to continue; and after every defeat they will exert great efforts toward terrorism and negative courses. It is in the interests of Syria and Lebanon to abort all these attempts. Syria will not hesitate to this effect. It is determined to exert all efforts to help the Lebanese overcome the ordeal. Syria will stand against the victor-and-vanquished formula which it has always opposed. It also opposes the domination of any Lebanese faction over other parties. This stand applies to all directions and all parties.

Knesset Speaker Announces Postponement of Debate

TA221009 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0958 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor announcement in the Knesset]

[Text] As you know, the issue of early elections is, or was, on today's agenda. And now some sort of development has occurred which has affected my decision to use the authority given me by the code. What was the development? Four members travelled on behalf of the Knesset, as a state delegation, to Argentina. In accordance with the regulations determined on 29 November 1983 with the agreement of the Knesset speaker and the deputies and brought to the knowledge of all the factions, a state mission on behalf of the Knesset is not to be stopped other than with the knowledge of the Knesset speaker. It is true that the call can be made by the chairman of a faction, but the speaker must know of it. Now, of the four, one has returned. Without going into details, three are demanding the legitimate right to participate in the fateful voting to advance the elections, and I have decided to permit them to enjoy the same rights that are given to a Knesset member who has returned from Argentina in order to participate in the voting. Therefore I have decided to declare a break until 1700; at 1700 we will begin the session on the clauses on the agenda.

Cabinet To Propose November Elections If Vote Fails

TA211811 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Our correspondent Amnon Nadav has learned that if no decision to dissolve the Knesset is adopted tomorrow, as soon as the Knesset summer session begins, the Cabinet will propose holding elections in November. This proposal was decided upon in coalition consultations held this evening, and it is intended to circumvent a situation by which the Cabinet would be forced into holding early elections.

TAMI Secretariat Favors Earliest Election Date

TA211211 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The TAMI secretariat has decided that the party will support the earliest date proposed for general elections. Our Knesset correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli comments that this means TAMI will also support the opposition proposal and will not accept the coalition proposals.

Likud Enlisting Support for Knesset Vote

TA211528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The Likud is trying to persuade MK Yitzhaq Peretz of the Alignment to vote tomorrow against his party's motion to hold early elections and is also making preparations to bring MK Dror Zeigerman back from Argentina to join the coalition in the vote against the motion. Menahem Begin informed his party that if necessary, he will come to the Knesset tomorrow to vote along with the Cabinet. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that if Zeigerman and Begin indeed vote against the motion, a tie of 60 against 60 is to be expected, in which case the motion will be struck off the agenda. If MK Peretz also joins the opposition to the motion, the Cabinet will enjoy a 1-vote majority.

Weizman: Likud Policies 'Ended in Failure'

TA211201 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Mar 84 pp 1, 11

[Interview of 'Ezer Weizman by 'Ido Dissentchik: "The Likud is Guilty of Letting Our Most Important Achievement — The Peace With Egypt — Slip Away"]

[Excerpts] Within the next few days 'Ezer Weizman will present the top ten members of his list for the coming Knesset elections. "There will be surprises," Weizman promised *MA'ARIV* in an exclusive interview last night immediately after his dramatic television appearance. He did not want to give names, since some are still officiating as civil servants. "The people of Israel are facing an enormous leadership crisis," Weizman says. "A leader is not someone who has to come up with recipes for solutions to each and every problem. Leadership is something that should arouse hope and implant the belief that things are going to be better, fairer — and that is what we are going to do."

"Leaders can make all the difference in the world. Take Thatcher; take Reagan; take Begin in his prime. Leadership can organize skilled teams to seek the right solution to the most difficult problem."

According to 'Ezer Weizman the present leadership is also guilty of letting the most important achievement attained by the Likud — the peace with Egypt — slip away. Once the leadership itself began to make light of this peace, one can hardly expect the people to place much hope in it either.

As is his habit, 'Ezer fires off his statements in long bursts and it is almost impossible to break in with a question. But then he says: "Shoot" (in English):

[Question] Why did you remain silent for 3 years? The whole country was in an uproar, the people's lifeblood was being shed, yet you never said a word.

[Answer] Never in my life have I said things just for the sake of saying them, without stating how they should be done, without backing them personally. Since my resignation from the Cabinet, all I could do was talk, not act; just criticize, without this criticism having any teeth to it. All I would have done would have been to add fuel to the flames. However, now that elections are in the offing and things can be done I have come out and started to talk. I am speaking, and I am acting. That is the right and democratic thing to do.

[Question] What solution do you have to the Palestinian issue?

[Answer] This is not a Palestinian issue but an Israeli one. There are 2 million Arabs and three-quarters of a million Jews in

Greater Israel. We are surrounded by millions of Arabs. The Likud opened up a path to the Arab world through Egypt, but now this issue has been put on the back burner — not done away with, but put on the back burner. Instead of a thing of hope, they have turned the peace into something forced and unwanted. We must learn to live with the Arabs — not at any price, but not according to Moshe Dayan's version either, which meant living forever by the sword. We must make use of this peace that exists, in order to solve the Palestinian-Israeli question.

[Question] Is there no chance of your returning to the Likud?

[Answer] That is over and done with. There were times when I thought that I might go back. Don't forget that I never belonged to any other party. Unlike some of the other ministers who sit in the Cabinet but speak against the government yet dare not resign, when I felt that I was unable to prevent certain disasters from happening, I got up and walked out — and I kept quiet. Now, after more than 3 years have gone by, elections are coming and I have set out to campaign. Everything the Likud has touched has ended in failure: peace, war, the economy, religion,you name it. Let us suppose for a minute that the Likud is carrying a flag for settlements. I am not sure that that should be their banner, but suppose it was their most vaunted one. Well, they had no success with that either. After a period of 7 years, if there are only 30,000 Jews in all these settlements, that is not exactly success. At least they should not regard it as a success. I know that some people think that 30,000 is already terrible enough, but I am talking from the Likud viewpoint. They failed with settlements; Lebanon is a dreadful tragedy; peace is as cold as ice; the dollar is up to 150 shekels. I don't want to join forces with people like that. Nor will we — my colleagues and I — consent to any of those who supported the Likud and its policy joining our ranks.

[Question] How many votes do you think a list such as yours will need in order to be considered successful?

[Answer] That is not a question I will answer now, and I am not even sure that I will answer it at all before the elections take place.

Ben-Eli'ezer Resigning To Join Weizman Party

TA211711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 12 Mar 84

[text] Brigadier General Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, the coordinator of activities in the territories, is about to resign from his job and join the political party 'Ezer Weizman is establishing. He informed the defense minister of his decision today. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Minister Arens suggested that Ben-Eli'ezer remain in his post until the date for elections is determined.

Alignment Launches Election Campaign in Arab Sector

TA212018 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The Alignment has begun to campaign in the Arab sector in preparation for elections even before a decision has been made to dissolve the Knesset. An ITIM correspondent reports that this evening the first election meeting was held in Nazareth, and Alignment activists discussed methods of action in the Arab sector.

'Atzma'ut Movement To Run in Elections

TA212021 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The 'Atzma'ut [Independence] Movement, headed by Professor 'Ezra Zohar, has announced that it will run in the elections. Our correspondent Yose Melman reports that in a meeting in Tel Aviv, Prof Zohar announced that his movement would again try to enlist support and votes for an administration based on free enterprise and no income tax.

Ne'eman on Early Elections, Settlements Link

TA211222 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Science and Technology Minister Yuval Ne'eman says he doesn't believe the early elections would lead to a freeze on settlement in the territories. On the contrary, he told reporter Jerry Cheslow, he thought the rate of settlement would be stepped up:

[Begin Ne'eman recording] What this government can show the electorate is that it has been faithful to its position with respect to Judaea and Samaria, so I think it has to show a maximal amount of actual construction. So I think that there's a good chance that if the election is going to be in the late fall, that we'll have a real upsurge in the effort. [end recording]

Sharon Will Run for Premiership Against Shamir

TA211231 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 21 Mar 84 pp 1, 6

[Report by Bina Barzel, Arye Tzimuqi, Gad Becker, and Yisra'el Tomer]

[Excerpt] Minister Ari'el Sharon plans to contest the Likud candidacy for the premiership in light of the coming elections. If Sharon makes good his intention, the possibility that David Levi will also contest the candidacy should not be ruled out either.

Senior Likud figures yesterday expressed the fear that an all out contest will harm the Likud's election chances, all the more so since there are indications that the Alignment will reach an agreement between Peres, Rabin and Navon.

Last night various Likud sources attempted to bring about a dialogue between Shamir, Levi, and Sharon. One of the proposals raised was that Shamir should make the appointments he was supposed to initiate within 3 months of taking office — appointing David Levi foreign minister, and letting Ari'el Sharon have the housing portfolio. It is doubtful however whether Sharon will now be content with that kind of compensation; he appears firmly resolved to run for the premiership, and this fact

will affect the entire political establishment, inter alia also the date on which the elections will take place.

Vote on Dissolution of Knesset in Doubt

TA211614 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Barring last minute changes, the motion to hold early elections which will be voted on tomorrow in the Knesset might be defeated. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that MK Yitzhaq Peretz of the Alignment does not intend to vote along with his party. Thus the balance of power will be 60 for the motion, 60 against it, and the motion will be struck off the agenda. The three members of the Knesset delegation in Argentina — Dror Zeigerman, Ge'ula Kohen, and 'Uzi Bar'am — are planning to leave Buenos Aires in about 2 Hours. Dror Zeigerman will vote with the Cabinet.

About 3 hours ago, MK Ge'ula Kohen talked with our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli on the phone from Argentina, and told him that the delegation will stay in Argentina until Sunday, and already has meetings scheduled for it — including with President Alfonsin.

This afternoon Coalition Executive Chairman Avraham Shapira said that a coalition committee had decided that it is necessary to hold early elections, but that negotiations will continue on the date. He did not rule out the possibility that the Cabinet will submit its own motion to dissovle the Knesset, and that it may do so even during the Knesset recess.

Correspondent Assesses Possible Knesset Vote

TA211859 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The members of the Knesset delegation in Argentina are on their way back to Israel and, if all goes well, they will arrive here tomorrow in time for the Knesset vote. Speaking from the Knesset studio is our party affairs correspondent Amnon Nadav:

[Anchorman Yosi Qoren] Amnon, good evening. You are following events in the Knesset. Is it possible to say for sure whether there will be a tie in tomorrow's vote?

[Nadav] Well, events are unfolding like chapters in a detective story, which is why I would prefer to quote statements that I heard a few minutes ago: MK Dror Zeigerman is indeed on his way back from Argentina to vote against the bill to dissolve the Knesset and MK Menahem Begin will appear tomorrow for the vote. This was confirmed by two senior Likud ministers following hours of trying to keep secret the Likud stratagem, which is intended to defeat the bill on early elections and which they hoped would only be discovered tomorrow.

[Qoren] In numbers, does that mean that 61 will vote with the coalition?

[Nadav] No, the count is 60 to 60, and because this is a bill submitted by either the Alignment or TAMI — whichever — and the number of opponents will be identical to the number of supporters, in such a case the bill will be struck off the agenda and the elections will not be held earlier.

At any rate, I would like to say once again that right now everything we say must be qualified, because to the best of my knowledge the Alignment members are not giving up, despite their disappointment, and they are trying to come up with their own gimmick — which has not yet been decided on — to guarantee a majority, perhaps a majority of only one vote, to hold early elections. They have many candidates to aim their arrows at — such as MK Mordekhay Ben-Porat, perhaps; or MK Yiga'el Hurvitz.

[Qoren] What else is going on there?

[Nadav] Actually what happened is that everything came out of the blue and most MK's believe that this is something that was dreamed up in real secrecy. However, let me give the microphone to Hayim Zissowitz, who has followed all the stages of this strategy:

[Zissowitz] The closer the decision on the bill to dissolve the Knesset, the greater the pressures and — one may also add — the rumors. The fragile situation in which the bill is guaranteed of, at the most, a majority of one vote turns every Knesset member into a kingmaker and the coalition has been making efforts in the hope of persuading even one Knesset member supporting the bill to defect, or at least not show up tomorrow. One of these is MK Yitzhaq Peretz, who — according to rumors — was offered the post of a minister without portfolio and all sorts of other attractive promises, if only he would not support early elections or at least pretend to be sick. Peretz turned down all these offers curtly and said, and I quote, that the offers make him sick.

Some coalition members also pinned their hopes today on Yitzhaq Berman. Former Minister Mordekhay Ben-Porat, who has not give up the idea of establishing a national unity government, conferred with Yitzhaq Berman — who favors early elections — and suggested that he support a unity government over early elections. Berman replied that tomorrow he will vote for the dissolution of the Knesset whatever happens, but added that if in the future — namely, next week or in 2 weeks — he becomes convinced that there are realistic chances of establishing a unity government, he would vote against the bills when they come up for the second and third readings. Berman added, however, that he does not entertain high hopes about the idea of unity.

Meanwhile it has also turned out that not all the opposition components are too happy with the early dates proposed by the Alignment. Eli Kulas, the Chairman of the Knesset Law, Constitution and Justice Committee, has received appeals from opposition members who are talking about dates they would prefer, such as June or July — as HADASH had proposed — or even September, as proposed by the Citizens Rights Movement. Whether this is merely a ploy or not, one cannot say, but it is still telling and points to the great pressure and the tense atmosphere that is prevailing, but MK Shlomo Lorincz is considering propos-

ing that the Knesset House Committee amend the Knesset statute and hold secret ballots tomorrow on all the dissolution bills. Lorincz is convinced that such a vote would show that there is an absolute majority against these motions.

[Nadav] If that is the case, I have even heard Minister David Levi saying that he would be willing to bet that such a motion would not have more than 40 votes, whereas all the other Knesset members — 80 in number — would vote against it.

[Qoren] Anyway, all the Knesset members who talked about the matter are talking about the date for early elections without mentioning the possibility that this actually has yet to be decided.

[Zissowitz] One should say that whether or not the elections are held early is an issue that until today was considered a foregone conclusion, even the coalition had already accepted this. Yet this afternoon the mood changed, perhaps because of the reports here about the return of Dror Zeigerman, or perhaps because the coalition has some information that it may be possible to rely on a change of heart among certain opposition Knesset members.

[Nadav] I would mention particularly in this context the fact that as I said before, the matter was kept secret from coalition members, too, not to mention the opposition, and only by chance did MK 'Uzi Bar'am — who is in Argentina together with Dror Zeigerman — learn that he had been recalled and he tried to persuade Zeigerman not to come back. Then he learned that Dror Zeigerman is determined to return. This is the basis of the Alignment's expectation that he has no other intention but to vote along with the coalition.

Urquhart Aims for Compromise UNIFIL Deployment

TA211717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart hinted in his meetings in Israel that the UN Security Council might not accept Israel's proposal for UNIFIL to deploy north of the Al-Awwali and to create a buffer in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' between the IDF and the Syrian Army. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that Urquhart is trying to reach a compromise formula, the gist of which is that the UN force will remain at its bases in southern Lebnaon, but will be stationed for special assignments in the Al-Biqa' area and along the Al-Awwali.

UNIFIL Opposes Israeli Proposals

TA220859 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 22 Mar 84 p 4

[Reported by Yehuda Tzur]

[Text] Senior sources of the UNIFIL force in southern Lebanon have expressed opposition to Israel's proposals for a redeployment of UNIFIL troops.

The main proposal was that UNIFIL should move out of the south and become a buffer between the Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' and Israel. UN Under Secretary Brian Urquhart believes that the proposal will not be approved by the Security Council as it stands now.

Israel would like UNIFIL to vacate its bases in southern Lebanon and move its forces to the Al-Biqa' and along the Al-Awwali. UNIFIL sources have stated that it is inconceivable that a UN force should be converted into an official seal of approval for Israel's conquests in southern Lebanon. The UN under secretary made it clear that Israel's present lines would not obtain the confidence of the Security Council, in which the Soviet Union has the veto power.

Israeli sources recently discussed with Under Secretary Urquhart the possibility of realizing the Israeli proposals in this connection in the near future.

It should be noted that the UN under secretary is continuing his talks in the region, shuttling between Jerusalem, southern Lebanon and Damascus. Mr Urquhart began his talks 2 weeks ago. In the past few days he has worked out a new proposal, mainly to the effect that UNIFIL would maintain its command post at An-Naqurah, and once the IDF withdraws, the UN force will maintain a permanent presence in the refugee camps in Sidon and continue to maintain its forces in southern Lebanon. He is, however, also prepared for UNIFIL forces to be dispatched to the Al-Biqa' and along the Al-Awwali, provided the Lebanese Government gives its agreement.

Lebanese Forces Upgrade Office in Jerusalem

TA191107 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Mar 84 p 2

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Dan Avidan]

[Text] A permanent representation of the (Christian) Lebanese Forces in Israel will be opened within a few days in the Megido Towers in Jerusalem. The office has already been rented to the Lebanese Forces. The deal was closed during a short visit by a top official of the Lebanese Forces in Israel.

In talks held by the official with the director general of the foreign Ministry, David Kimche, and Israel's coordinator of activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, it appears that an agreement has been reached that the Lebanese Forces office in Israel will enjoy semi-diplomatic status. The Christian representative requested full diplomatic status. The Foreign Ministry objected to this for political reasons, and also because it is unprecedented for a representative in Israel, not on behalf of a sovereign country, to enjoy diplomatic status.

The representative of the Lebanese Forces in Israel, Pierre Yazbik, is currently busy furnishing the office and finding accomodations for his staff. Yazbik, who will head the office, will be assisted by a five or six person staff. The office will be equipped with communications devices which will allow direct contact between the representation and the headquarters of the Lebanese Forces in Beirut.

The top official, who stayed in Israel to prepare for opening the Christian representation, yesterday told *DAVAR* that the Leba-

nese Forces intend to maintain normal relations with Israel. He said that the setting up of the representation in Israel is part of the Lebanese Forces battle against the renewed Syrian efforts to take control over Lebanon.

The top official affirmed that the Lebanese Forces reject a priori any settlement achieved in Lausanne, since it will be under Syrian auspices. He emphasized the willingness of the Lebanese Forces to foil any settlement in Lebanon that would bring back Syrian hegemony in that country.

"The only thing we are willing to accept from Lausanne is a cease-fire agreement in Lebanon. All the other agreements will be rejected by us, including unacceptable territorial arrangements for stabilizing the cease-fire."

The top official also said that the Lebanese Forces, who are the strongest militia in Lebanon, will not accept any settlement with the Druze before the Druze allow the Christian population to return to their villages in the Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh areas.

He expects an escalation of the internal conflict in Lebanon, and assesses that the only arrangements that could last for a long time in that country is a cantonization according to communities.

In a talk with the *DAVAR* correspondent, the official affirmed that lately some of the Christian fighters have joined the Haddad forces in southern Lebanon, after the framework of the Lebanese Forces in southern Lebanon was dismantled.

According to him, the link between these fighters and the commander of the Lebanese Forces was maintained only on the tactical leve, through the Christian strongholds in the Al-Khara'ib area north of the Al-Awwali, and not on the strategic level, that is, via the Lebanese Forces headquarters in Beirut.

He also said that the steps toward setting up a new Christian body headed by the Lebanese Forces, and meant to fight the agreements which will be achieved in Lausanne, have not been completed yet. He said that the meeting which took place on 13 March between Fadi Afram and other Christian leaders, mainly from the religious Christian establishment, was only a preparatory meeting toward setting up a new body whose name will probably be "The National Christian Council."

Lausanne Conference Collapse Seen as Syrian Failure

AU211559 Rome ANSA in English 1545 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Excerpt](ANSA) Tel Aviv March 21 — The virtual collapse of the Lausanne conference on Lebanon marks Syria's failure to do any better than sidestep or refurbish the problems rending Israel's northern neighbor, high-ranking Israeli analysts told ANSA this morning.

Refusing to go beyond this generic assessment, they said a more pondered view could be formulated when all reports are in from the Swiss venue of the talks.

HA'ARETZ Calls for Withdrawal in East Lebanon

TA181313 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Mar 84 p 7

[Commentary by Mikha'el Garti: "A Worthless Card"]

[Excerpts] In the 20 months that have passed since the war in Lebanon began, the Syrian Army has increased its strength in the number of units and the quantity of equipment (tanks, artillery, planes, surface to surface missiles and surface to air missiles), along with technological advances and the use of newer arms. In some areas the Syrians have equipped themselves with the newest arms found in the Soviet arsenal, such as SS-21's, SAM 5's, and T-72 tanks.

The Syrians have thoroughly learned the lessons of the Lebanese war, and it appears that they have given much thought to finding solutions to the deployment of their forces, their organization, and the fortification of their posts. The solutions are implemented quickly in order to fill the holes in those areas where the weakness of the Syrian alignment during the war was manifested. The Syrians want to build a system that will make use of the relative advantage they had in other areas. One of the examples for the new Syrian deployment is a new type of outpost which is being built by the Syrians.

The IDF deployment line in front of the Syrians was determined largely by chance. It is the line at which the forces were given the order to stop when the cease-fire of 11 June 1982 came into effect. This line runs near the villages of Yanta, Kamid al-Lawz, Jubb Jannin, and 'Ammiq. It was not planned, but was rather the line where the forces were "caught" on their way to the Beirut-Damascus road when the cease-fire was announced.

The excellent observation point on Jabal al-Baruk and the deployment against the mountain paths through which the Beirut-Damascus road crosses to the Syrian capital, now look like a strategic burden when the deployment in the eastern sector is examined. This is assuming that Israel is not interested in initiating a war against Syria, and also assuming that Syria knows about this unwillingness. The first reason for saying that this is a strategic burden is that the friction between the two armies can bring about artillery clashes, a war of attrition, or an all-out war contrary to the desire of the two sides. Such a fear could be meaningfully decreased if a buffer zone were maintained between the two armies.

The deployment in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley can become an even more serious burden when analyzed from the perspective of a possible sudden Syrian attack on the IDF forces in Lebanon. The IDF's concept of defense in this eventuality is based on checking the attack until the reserve army is mobilized. The present line, which runs across relatively open territory through the entire width of the Al-Biqa' valley, in an area in which there are almost no natural barriers, requires that the IDF maintain large forces in the area, a thing which harms training and the ability of the IDF to organize forces for a counterattack. Even the most northern posts in Jabal al-Baruk require the presence of considerable forces, though their tactical aim is to serve as observation posts. These forces are needed in order to prevent the posts being surrounded or conquered (many remember the con-

siderable effort and heavy losses suffered at the beginning of the Yom Kippur war in attempts to rescue soldiers from the surrounded posts on the Suez Canal).

The roads leading to the line are exposed to artillery fire in several places, and all attempts to reinforce those forces halting the Syrian attack will meet with difficulties if the attempt is made after the beginning of the Syrian attack. The answer is to maintain more forces in the Al-Biqa' valley, meaning a greater load on the army, more reserve duty, and a strain on Israel's security budget.

Assuming that without proper security arrangements there can be no withdrawal from a security zone in southern Lebanon, it seems that an optimal redeployment can be achieved in the southern part of the Al-Biqa' valley.

This would call for withdrawing from Jabal al-Baruk. (As for its importance as an observation post, it can only be said that it can be replaced. There is similar terrain a little to the south of Hasbayya, where the mountain passes leading south make it possible to check an attack, after a system of obstacles, anti-tank trenches, and minefields are set up. This would call for relatively few forces or less than half the forces now needed to protest the Al-Biqa' valley deployment line).

Hasbayya is about 23 km from Qiryat Shemona, almost the same distance as between Tyre and Nahariyya. If the important consideration is the range of Katyusha rockets, then the line can be fixed a few kilometers north of the town, so long as it is within the southern Al-Biqa' valley pass. A force deployed along the Hasbayya line would enjoy the advantage of controlling the strategic high ground overlooking the mountain passes, and would be able to even halt a large-scale attack. This, at least, was learned from the experience of Operation Peace for Galilee, during which the advance of large IDF forces was considerably slowed down in the area of Hasbayya by a relatively small Syrian force.

One of the arguments raised by those who are against withdrawing in the Al-Biqa' valley is the fear that the Syrian Army will advance southward, following the IDF. Experience teaches us that, up to the present, the Syrians have never crossed a line abandoned by the IDF, except for small units of intelligence personnel. Israel has the political and military means to fix a red line (even if it is not called by that name) for the Syrian Army in the Al-Biqa' valley. And even though no guarantees can be given that the Syrian Army will not advance southward even if a red line is fixed, it is hard to call the reliance on such a line a great risk.

The military considerations for withdrawing to the southern part of the Al-Biqa' valley are clear and valid as long as we are talking about deploying for defensive purposes and with a minimal number of forces. However, the question of whether we should withdraw to this line is political. If the Israeli Government believes that in the near future the IDF will have to launch an attack against the Syrian forces in Lebanon, then there is some logic in keeping the IDF on the present line, and even in reinforcing the forces in the Al-Biqa' valley. However, if the Israeli Government is not willing to attack Syria, and it does not look as though there is a national consensus for this, then it must get down off its high horse and stop talking about negotiating cards and strategic advantages but instead redeploy on a shorter and more defensible line, which would be chosen according to relevant considerations. The present line was not chosen -- it happened. 'Ammiq and Yanta are not sacred, and there is no danger in facing up to reality and acting in accordance with a rational evalution of the situation.

Rosenne Welcomes Decision To Deny Jordan Missiles

TA220728 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0628 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Interview with Israeli Ambassador to Washington Me'ir Rosenne by 'Oded Granot; in Washington — date not given; recorded]

[Text] [Rosenne] As is known, we are opposed to giving weapons to Arab countries that are not prepared to negotiate with us about peace, and after the Jordanian king's statements over the last few days, it is clear that Jordan has no intention of sitting down to talk about peace with Israel. So, not giving weapons to Jordan is a move that can only help to advance peace in the Middle East.

[Granot] Together with the striking out of the proposal for the sale of antiaircraft missiles, the U.S. Administration announced its further intention to supply weapons to Jordan and also the intention of establishing a rapid deployment force for the Jordanian Army. Ambassador Rosenne was asked how Israel regards this:

[Rosenne] Well, as I explained to you, and it has also been explained at length in Jerusalem, we think that the best way of bringing peace to the Middle East is to explain to all the Arab countries, to tell them clearly and unambiguously that the only way to obtain peace is not to arm themselves, but to sit down and discuss peace with Israel.

[Granot] Ambassador Rosenne was asked whether Israel was given a prior announcement about the Administration's intention of getting out of the missile deal:

[Rosenne] As you know, there have been contacts with the administration all during this period. I do not think it will help anyone if we go into details of who said what and when. Israel's opposition was known to everyone. We also expressed it in public. And the king's recent statements have proven that anyone who thought there had been a change in the Arab countries' position toward us was just making a mistake.

[Granot] Commentators in the United States said yesterday that Israel had won this battle, but now Husayn may turn to European countries and ask them for sophisticated weapons over which the United States would have no control.

[Rosenne] Well, experience of the not-too-distant past shows that when weapons were given to Arab countries with a specific commitment that they not be used for aggression or against Israel, those commitments were not honored. We have also had a bitter experience with Jordan itself. Altogether we think that

giving weapons to countries that specifically state, and also show by actions, that they have no intention of conducting negotiations over peace, does not help stability in the Middle East. Purchasing weapons from other places is a possibility that always existed; but we hope countries that maintain diplomatic relations with us and are interested in peace in the area — especially when there is a war between Iraq and Iran which has already lasted for 4 years and a general lack of stability in all countries in the area — wouldthink twice before supplying offensive weapons to any Arab country whatsoever.

[Granot] The administration is disappointed at the fact that the Congress formulated a majority against the proposal. Ambassador Rosenne was asked whether he thought that this would have any effect on U.S.-Israeli relations:

[Rosenne] I will not refer to matters involving the U.S. Congress. That is not our affair. I can only tell you that over the past few weeks, I discerned, in both the press and various administration circles, great sympathy for Israel, and it is a shame that it took a year or two for people to begin to believe that Israel's claims are correct and that the steps that Israel has taken have been correct. Thus, for example, we are reading an editorial which pointed out the fact that the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor was a wise act, since we are hearing about Iraq's use of gas in the war against Iran. It is only now that people are noticing that Israel's action, which involved a very great risk, brought good not only to us, but to all the world's countries.

HA'ARETZ on Reactions to Husayn Remarks

TA201000 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Mar 84 p 9

[Commentary by Tzvi Bar'el: "Anything the King Does, He Does Well"]

[Text] "The Palestinian problem is not milk. There is no need to drink it all very quickly before it goes sour. And, anyway, what is the panic? Let history have its way and we will get what is ours in the end." The man — an activist in the Palestinian Communist Party — spoke with a sort of relief about the hard-hitting interview King Husayn granted *THE NEW YORK TIMES* correspondent. "At long last the king has realized that no good will come of hasty moves and reliance on the Americans. As for myself, I did not have many illusions about those 'comrades' who are members of the pro-Jordanian lobby in the West Bank. After all, it is obvious that anyone who pins his hopes on the Americans is bound to be disappointed. Did they succeed in putting a stop to settlements? Are they capable of bringing about an Israeli withdrawal? Are they capable of putting economic pressure on Israel? And what about the 'vital U.S. interest in Lebanon'? It was absolutely clear to me that any political move based on a U.S. initiative is doomed to failure. Therefore I am patient and I do not despair. The desperate people may be those who went to Jordan to knock on the king's door."

However, even some of the members of the delegation that went to Jordan 2 weeks ago are finding it hard to explain the crude, sharp tone the king used in his remarks about the United States. For the first 2 days they did not want to react. "Maybe he will deny it. Maybe he was not quoted correctly." However, after Jordanian television repeated the textual translation of the interview in three editions, the wave of commentaries began to flow.

Not one of the speakers is ready to say confidently that the king, by his remarks, burned his bridges with the United States. Saying such a thing would mean confirming the communists' claim. "Superficially, it is true, it seems that the king slammed the door shut on the Americans. However, reading between the lines, you must understand that this is just a question of a reproof." A reproof, learning a lesson, putting people in their places: These are the phrases that are being repeated by the pro-Jordanians who have not so far found an explanation for these undiplomatic statements. On the other hand, they cannot straighten out the contradiction, that Jordan wants to put the Americans in their place and, at the same time, it wants U.S. weapons and U.S. pressure to be applied against Israel. The cautious speakers say this is a dangerous game of playing at being mad. "The United States, in any case, has been involved with Israel for a long time. And in an election year, in view of the power of the Jewish lobby, we certainly cannot expect much. Why, then, did King Husayn see fit to give President Reagan a slap in the face?"

However, as in Anderson's story for children, "Anything the king does, he does well." And this is also how his remarks are to be received, in the view of his supporters in the West Bank. As for the matter of political wisdom, Husayn can certainly also provide an example for the U.S. leaders. When such a situation is created — when the explanations are insufficient and the king's move is not clear — a rabbit is expected to pop out of the hat.

However, Husayn is not actually a leader who is in the habit of occupying himself with magic, when it is a question of conducting policy. For a long time the king was careful to be the courted and not the courting party, both in the Arab and the international arenas. Recently a situation has been created in which delegations have been constantly knocking at the door of the royal court. The king is flooded with delegations from Egypt at the level of ministers and deputy ministers, who want to accelerate the economic and cultural activities shared by Jordan and Egypt. 'Arafat paved the way among most of the Arab leaders, before he appealed to the Jordanian Canossa, while, from the United States, so far voices have been heard presenting King Husayn as the man who holds the key to the solution to the Palestinian problem. Such a powerful pan-Arab candidate and constant U.S. courting of the king, in the nature of things, have created expectations which gave the king hope for significant U.S. pressure on Israel, despite the election year.

The challenge Husayn wanted to throw down before Reagan is one of "I, Husayn, the representative of sane Arabism, opposed to the Jewish lobby and aggressive Israel," but in the current U.S. reality, this is an impossible challenge. Reagan has opted for Israel and the Congress for the Jewish lobby. However, in this situation, too, Husayn can be seen to have his feet firmly planted on the ground and even to be in a better position. Jordan can give up Stinger missiles, but the United States cannot give up Jordan in any political process. This is also the consideration that apparently faced Husayn when he expressed himself as he did in *THE NEW YORK TIMES*. This is because one of the possibilities confronting Husayn was to bind himself to the political

process that is connected with the name of Reagan and to an initiative that does not have Arab agreement. And all this must be considered in the light that nobody is promising him that Reagan will be the next President of the United States. In contrast to this, patience and waiting for the election results, and entering into the political process with a president who has a long term in office ahead of him, and one not dependent on the Jewish lobby, could give the king the chance of accumulating political achievements and even using pressure on Israel.

In the meantime he has nothing to lose. Nine months cannot make much of a change in the West Bank settlements, particularly in view of the miserable data about the scale of settlement over the past year and the slashed budget intended for this purpose. The Palestinians of the West Bank have proven, and will obviously continue to prove, that their dependence on the king and support for him can be considered as a foregone conclusion; furthermore, the embraces with 'Arafat and the announcement of cooperation with him — which do not commit the king to anything for the moment — are giving Husayn the advantage of the support he needs to continue bearing the name of the "man with the mandate" for any length of time. The only "punishment" that Husayn could suffer in the wake of his remarks is a U.S. refusal to sell him the Stingers. However, since this demand [derisha] of his has more of a political than a military nature, and since this punishment is not even certain and final, Husayn can speak out freely and fearlessly, and even win.

And how will all this affect the solution to the Palestinian problem? As this same communist activist has already said: "This is not milk that can turn sour."

Egypt Circulates 'Anti-Israeli' Document in U.S.

TA191759 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Egypt has been circulating among members of the U.S. Congress an anti-Israeli document entitled: "A List of Peace Treaty Violations." The document was distributed by Ashraf Ghurbal, the Egyptian ambassador to the United States. In the document, Egypt details — among other things — its contentions regarding the Tabah issue, and complains that Israeli military personnel penetrate that area frequently, and that Israeli Air Force planes overfly the area. The Egyptians also mention the Jerusalem law, the annexation of the Golan Heights, the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor and the settlements.

The Israeli Embassy in Washington has not yet reacted to this but is awaiting instructions from Jerusalem. Our correspondent in Washington, Razi Barqay, reports that it appears as though the background for the distribution of the document is the deliberations over foreign aid to Israel and Egypt, currently under way in Congress.

One of the proposals broached in the course of the deliberations is to make aid to Egypt conditional upon an Egyptian commitment to return its ambassador to Tel Aviv and end the "cold peace."

Mustafa Khalil Says Egypt-Israeli Peace 'Firm'

TA211213 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Mar 84, p 4

[Report from Cairo by Shef Gabay]

[Text] The acting chairman of Egypt's ruling party, Dr Mustafa Khalil, told *MA'ARIV* on the fifth anniversary of the signing of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel that the agreements are firm and valid and, what is more, their foundations are strong.

Dr Khalil, who was Egypt's prime minister when the peace treaty was signed, does not believe there is a "cold peace" between the two countries. According to him, the present state of relations between the two came about as a result of the Israeli Government's policy. Nevertheless, Dr Khalil said, this does not affect the nature or form of the peace, and there is no doubt that this freeze will pass once the reasons that caused it have disappeared.

Dr Khalil rejects any idea of a link between Egypt's return to the Organization of Islamic Countries and any kind of evasiveness where the peace treaty is concerned. Egypt has made clear that it is not prepared to accept any limitation on its sovereignty and freedom to maintain relations with any country in the world.

Dr Khalil noted that Israel's invasion of Lebanon was contradictory to UN Resolution 242, on which the Camp David accords are based. With this in mind, Egypt is demanding that Israel pull out of Lebanon once it has received guarantees for the security of its northern border. Referring to a possible resumption of the talks on autonomy in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, Dr Khalil said that Israel had placed obstacles in the path of these talks, such as extending Israeli law to East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights.

New Nuclear Energy Production Technique Developed

TA200804 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Mar 84 p 1

[Report by Lea Levavi]

[Text] A new technique for producing nuclear energy which cannot be exploited for military purposes has been developed at Tel Aviv University.

Alvin Radkowsky, professor of nuclear engineering at the university, said he is now working on a hot water reactor which could produce energy using the new technique within 10 years. The new technology can meet the world's energy needs for the next 200 years, he said.

Radkowsky told *THE JERUSALEM POST* that scientists have been trying for years to find a way to produce nuclear energy using thorium, which is three or four times more plentiful than uranium.

He has found a way to do this using very small quantities of uranium — quantities small enough that the technology can be marketed freely without fear of countries developing uranium stockpiles which can then be used for military purposes.

Radkowsky, together with colleagues from Tel Aviv and Ben-Gurion Universities, is now working on the hot water reactor.

The research will be financed by a New York-based company, New Energy Technology, together with the Energy Ministry and the Ministry of Science and Development. The New York company's directors include leading physicists, among them Professor Edward Teller of the Lawrence Livermore Laboratories at the University of California, Nobel Prize Laureates Professor Hans Bethe of Cornell University and Professor Eugene Wigner of Princeton.

Liberians Take Pilot Training Course in Elat

TA220857 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
22 Mar 84 p 2

[Report by Eytann Rabin]

[Text] Six academicians and lecturers from Liberia arrived in Elat 2 days ago in order to participate in a pilot training course at the Elat airfield. This is the first group to take this kind of course in Israel. The school that will be teaching the six lecturers is the "Snunit" flying school of Elat, which won the bid that was tendered by Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI].

One member of the group said that IAI would be selling Arava planes to his country for use by the Liberian airline or by Liberia's Air Force. A source at the Elat airfield confirmed to this reporter that academicians from Liberia are currently taking a flying course in the town. He refused to confirm that Israeli aircraft would be sold to Liberia.

Israeli Citizens Will Be Able To Visit Cuba

TA190904 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
19 Mar 84 p 2

["Exclusive" report from Copenhagen by Eliyahu Zehavi]

[Text] Cuba's ambassador in Denmark told the *HA'ARETZ* correspondent that Israelis will be able to visit Cuba. This was said at the opening of the tourism fair in Copenhagen, in which Israel participates. An Israeli desiring to visit Cuba will be able to submit his request to any Cuban Embassy, and his request will be approved 10 to 14 days later. The request can also be mailed to the nearest embassy. Cuba has appointed an Israeli citizen, Me'ir Meiberg, as an agent in Sweden and Finland for package tourist deals to Cuba.

ALGERIA

Foreign Minister Reaffirms Relations With Egypt

NC181215 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Algiers, 18 Mar (MENA) — Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Algerian minister of foreign affairs, met today with the Egyptian delegation participating in the meetings of the African Parliamentary Federation currently being held in Algiers. The Algerian minister affirmed to the Egyptian delegation, led by Mukhtar 'Abd al-Hamid, People's Assembly deputy speaker, the importance of bolstering relations between Algeria and Egypt in all fields. Ibrahimi and the Egyptian delegation also discussed the role of Arab relations and the need to strengthen them, particularly among the Arab member states in the OAU.

During his meeting with the heads of the African parliamentary delegations participating in the conference, Mukhtar 'Abd al-Hamid discussed the importance of enhancing African relations with the Arab countries. He stressed the Arab role in developing Africa.

Bendjedid Receives French, Upper Voltan Visitors

LD171639 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Algiers, 17 Mar (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN party, this morning received at the Presidency of the Republic the first secretary of the French Socialist Party, Lionel Jospin, who is on an official visit to Algeria. The meeting was attended by Mohamed Cherif Messadia, member of the FLN political bureau, in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee; and Alderrazak Bouhara, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee in charge of foreign relations, on the Algerian side. On the French side the meeting was attended by Jacques Huntzinger, national secretary in charge of international relations, and Raoul Weexten, in charge of Maghreb affairs [in the French Socialist Party].

President Bendjedid also received Commandant Jean-Baptiste Lingany, minister of defense of Upper Volta and special envoy of the president of Upper Volta, who brought a letter from President Sankara to the president of the republic. The meeting took place in the presence of Larbi Belkhir, member of the Central Committee and secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic.

Yugoslav Official Arrives, Makes Statement

LD200411 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Dr Dusan Dragosavac, member of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee Presidium this afternoon arrived in Algiers on a 5-day official visit at the invitation of the FLN party.

Dr Dragosavac was welcomed at the Houari Boumedienne International Airport by Abderrezak Bouhara, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee in charge of foreign relations and senior party officials and the Yugoslav ambassador in Algiers.

In a statement to the press Dr Dragosavac pointed out that the LCY and the FLN party are linked by traditional and very good relations and that the two countries have built up fruitful and diversified bilateral cooperation, particularly within the Nonaligned Movement.

The chairman of the International Committee of the LCY added that his talks with Algerian officials will deal with ways and means to strengthen bilateral relations and also with current international issues. Dr Dragosavac added that the talks will deal also with the preparations for the next conference of the progressive parties of the Mediterranean which is scheduled to take place in June in Belgrade.

LIBYA

Government States Position on U.S. 'Scheme'

LD220826 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli 22 Mar (JANA) — The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison yesterday summoned the Arab ambassadors accredited to the Jamahiriyah. The committee informed them that the Jamahiriyah strongly condemned the American military intervention in the Arab region and the language of muscle flexing and intimidation which is represented by sending the advanced warning and fighter aircraft to the Arab region.

The committee also informed the Arab ambassadors that the Jamahiriyah rejects the aggressive statements by the officials of the American Administration and the statements of the heads of the Egyptian and Sudanese regimes, and it also strongly condemns the military, political and information coordination between the American Administration and the Egyptian and Sudanese regimes.

The People's Committee for the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison explained the Arab ambassadors that the Jamahiriyah has called for the convening of the UN Security Council to look into the American aggressive scheme against the Jamahiriyah, stressingthat the Jamahiriyah will adopt all the necessary measures to defend itself and that the Jamahiriyah has firmly rejected the American threatening memorandum.

The committee pointed out in its explanation that what happened in Omdurman is nothing but an excuse for intervention in the Sudan by the colonialist countries in order to make it a forward base for the aggression against the Libyan Arab people. The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison called on the Arab countries and the Arab peoples to shoulder their full responsibilities in combating the American aggression in order to preserve the security, freedom and dignity of the Arab nation.

Tripoli Conference Reviews Sudan Situation

LD220753 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0710 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli 22 Mar (JANA) — At the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference in Tripoli, a meeting has been held attended by the squads of the Sudanese patriotic movement and the members of the Arab People's Conference from the political and trade union organizations and the liberation movements. The situation in the Sudan was reviewed. The conferees examined the deterioration of the internal situation in the Sudan and the ways in which the Numayri regime commits aggression against the Sudanese people and its ancient democratic and patriotic traditions and against its Arab and African relations by throwing itself into the arms of imperialism, the stable David policy, and by making Sudan a (?station) for imperialism and reaction.

JANA: Shultz Issues 'Flagrant Threat'

LD220959 Tripoli JANA in English 0844 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Washington, Jumada Thani 18, Mar 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — George Shultz, the American secretary of state, sent a flagrant threat with aggression against Libya in the context of his frantic decision of sending AWACS planes to Egypt in addition to other support planes. He announced his desire in a press conference held in Washington yesterday to help America's friends and allies in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa and to counteract Libya. The American secretary of state expressed the American Administration's alarm because of the mounting Libyan role in rejecting American domination and described Libyan behavior as falling outside any recognizable norms. The American secretary of state's announcements bore naked threats to flex American military muscles against Libya following America's admission of failure of its foreign policy and its defeat in the Lebanon.

Government Refuses To Accept U.S. Message

LD211540 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1505 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, 21 Mar (JANA) — The People's Committee of People's Foreign Liaison Bureau has categorically refused to accept a (?verbal) memorandum from the U.S. State Department conveyed by the Belgian ambassador, who looks after U.S. interests in the Jamahiriyah, to the committee today. The committee regards this memorandum as a threat by the United States to declare war on the Jamahiriyah on behalf of the Governments of Egypt and Sudan, which are incapable and have assigned the United States to look after their affairs. The committee requested the Belgian ambassador to convey to the U.S. Administration that the Jamahiriyah rejects the language of threats, use of force and muscle flexing, and alerts the world that actions among Arab countries, whatever their nature, are considered to be internal matters, that the artificial borders between Arab countries are the making of colonialism and that such a situation does not provide a pretext for any kind of interference in the region or in Arab affairs. The committee stressed that Libya has the right, on the basis of all international laws, to take any political and military measures to defend its security and secure its safety against any danger.

Al-Qadhdhafi on Rumored March to Egypt

LD180213 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0015 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The brother leader of the revolution yesterday took part in the session held by the masses of the educational congresses at the Al-Fatih University.

The leader talked about the rumor of a march to Egypt. He said: I am sorry to see that such simple things can deceive you while the revolution in Libya is in the height of its glory. He went on: This means that to renege is easy if a number of people hasten to register their names to go to Egypt. Who is going to rejoice at going to Egypt? Has Egypt been liberated that we are are going to Egypt? He said: I was surprised and felt regret at such an action by young people who registered their names saying they want to take part in the march. Even supposing that I said to you: Register your names for the march to Egypt, I would expect you to say: We refuse. You have taught this and you would say: What has happened in Egypt. Egypt is on the black list. The Israelis are defiling it. Egypt is still fettered with the Camp David agreements, and the grave of 'Abd an-Nasir is trampled on.

The brother leader explained that Egypt is on the black list; it committed treason, and it has committed the greatest sin. I mean to say that as of 28 March, Libyan nationals can go visit the Egyptian people; in other words Libyans can go to the Egyptians directly if they want to do so. I did not mean a march.

Radio Commentary on Sudan 'Uprising'

LD180023 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The heroic resistance in Sudan against the Numayri regime is distinguished by the following points:

1. Those who are resisting the Numayri regime and sparking off the uprisings against him are not only one section of the Arab people in Sudan. Those resisting the regime of Ja'far Numayri and rising up against him are all the sons of Sudan in the south and the north. They include doctors, workers, students, peasants, clerks, and the Armed Forces.

2. The popular uprising in Sudan is a movement of the Sudanese masses against the fascist regime. This movement has come into being as a result of the suffering of all the Sudanese people and of the political and living conditions which theyendure as a result of the mismanagement at all levels by the ruling regime in Khartoum.

3. The popular uprising in Sudan has passed the point of passive resistance, because the regime never listened to the cries of the underprivileged and suppressed but turned its back on all the legitimate demands of the Sudanese masses expressed through passive resistance.

4. The popular uprising in Sudan against the Numayri regime is

not a transient revolution or a limited and temporary wrath which can be contained, deflated, and controlled, but is a resolution of a people determined to overthrow the fascist-reactionary regime in Sudan. For this reason the popular uprising has always erupted again after every repressive, tyrannical and barbarous campaign by the Numayri regime with the aid of his protectors to strike the Sudanese people.

5. The armed popular uprising in Sudan against the Numayri regime is no secessionist movement, as the ruling regime in Khartoum is claiming. The uprising is not only in southern Sudan but embraces all regions of Sudan from the north to the south. The Sudanese in the south are not the only ones who have been burdened by the reactionary policy of Numayri, nor are they the only ones angry about the policy of subservience which the Numayri regime has been following. All the Sudanese, from the Egyptian borders in the north to the furthest point in the south, feel the injustice meted out to them, and all feel insulted by the Numayri regime who let the Sudanese soil become a base for the U.S. forces and followed an antirevolutionary forces policy — a policy conforming to the aims of U.S. imperialism and racist Zionism and Arab reaction.

6. The popular masses that have risen up in Sudan, from the semiliterate to the intellectuals and technical experts of various scientific specializations, have agreed on the description that befits the Numayri regime: that is, the description of a regime linked to imperialism and the policy of surrender pursued by the Egyptian regime. It is a regime which follows a dictatorial domestic policy, which destroyed the Sudanese economy and turned Sudan, the Arab country richest in agricultural and mineral resources, into one of the poorest countries which relies on foreign aid and assistance. This aid is given by the foreign powers not out of love for the Sudanese people but to tie the country to the bandwagon of the exploiting imperialist economy, which wanted Sudan to become a backyard for the imperialist West and a market for its goods.

All the Sudanese are rising up against the Numayri regime. Numayri does not trust all the Sudanese. For a long time now he has relied on foreign intervention to protect his regime against the uprising of the popular masses and the Sudanese Armed Forces. Numayri has also been sensing that the grip of the Sudanese people was getting nearer to his throat. Hence Numayri and his family were busy smuggling Sudanese funds out into his own accounts and those of his family in foreign banks. He also bought palaces in the Egyptian capital and in Alexandria, and he kept at Khartoum Airport a private plane which is ready at any moment to take off with him when he decides to flee the country and when the foreign powers which take care of his defense can no longer offer him protection.

In the various state institutions Numayri planted foreign officials who watch the Sudanese and spy on them so that he can oppress the popular masses and strike them before they move and stage their uprisings against him, and so that he can uncover the activities of the revolutionary cells in the ranks of the Sudanese Armed Forces and arrest, with the aid of his protectors, free officers and men in the Sudanese Armed Forces and prevent them from sparking off the revolution of the soldiers in Sudan. And he knows that the popular masses would automatically join them immediately to destroy and overthrow the hireling regime.

However, all the security precautions which Numayri has taken and which the imperialist powers and the other foreign powers who sent their forces to Sudan to defend him had taken to defend him —all these security precautions did not succeed in suppressing the will of the popular revolution inside Sudan. Various popular uprisings took place in the country. If they did not succeed previously, this did not mean the movement of the masses is weak. For the evidence shows that the masses continued surprising the Numayri regime with another uprising after each one that has been successfully extinguished by his protectors.

The recent action of the Sudanese Air Force to overthrow the Numayri regime has come as definite proof that the will of the revolution in the ranks of the Sudanese people and their Armed Forces has not lost its ardor. The action of the Sudanese Air Force against the Numayri regime has come to revive and fan the flames of the revolution in the hearts of the Arab eagles of the air and all the Armed Forces in the Arab homeland to take the immediate step against the fascist and hireling regimes which are linked to imperialism — regimes whose stay in power would be a stain of shame on the brow of everyone capable of rising up but who does not and everyone who carries arms but does not open fire on the regimes of subservience and dictatorship, and everyone who feels injustice but suppresses his anger and resentment and does not come out brandishing his rifle, his sword, or axe to destroy the statues and idols, so that from their ruins and skulls the power of the popular masses may emerge.

JANA on U.S., Egyptian 'Interference' in Sudan

LD182325 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1825 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Mar, JANA — At the will of the U.S. the Egyptian regime is working feverishly to prepare conditions for the militarization of the Sudan. Under the pretext of an existing outside danger for the lackey submissive regime in Sudan, it has been sending more troops and military equipment to the Sudanese territories. This is in addition to the military groups and the establishment of a joint Sudanese-Egyptian operations room as part of an imperialist plan aimed mainly at undermining peace and stability in the region. The president of the Egyptian regime has started nowadays, more so than ever before, speaking as a leader, or more precisely occupier, of Sudan. If we count the number of statements and agitations released by Mubarak through so-called national papers and his other information apparatus employed for Western and Zionist propaganda, we would realize immediately that Sudan has come under a guardianship of the U.S. and West. What has happened? Does the genuine Sudanese action that took place in Sudan justify all that? In the perception and strategy of Mubarak, who is endeavoring to get a pivotol role in the region, the answer would naturally be yes. He is executing a strategy based on vile objectives and purposes. Husni Mubarak is qualified for this. Otherwise we would not have seen him run around and fill the globe with cries to confront the will of the Sudanese people, who are by all accounts living under conditions of increasing wretchedness under a bloody oppressive regime. It is their right to revolt and

get rid of this lackey regime which has exhausted Sudan and made it into an unbearable hell.

Because the Sudanese people have rocked the impotent generals' regime with the popular revolution which will spread unchecked in Sudan's provinces, and because the treacherous regime has been unable to face the revolution, it has given Husni Mubarak's regime a pretext to intervene militarily in Sudan under everyone's eyes, and with U.S. protection and a concentration and amassing of U.S. military machinery in Sudan not experienced before. Our attention and that of every observer in the region is drawn to the fact that the Egyptian regime is preparing the way for a U.S. military intervention by its political and military moves; Husni Mubarak had a meeting with the U.S. ambassador in Cairo and the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, also had a meeting with the U.S. ambassador, and Husni Mubarak had previously contacted the head of the U.S. Administration and exchanged letters with him after the attempted revolution which led to the destruction of Omdurman radio. This was accompanied by U.S. statements and declarations confirming U.S. intentions to get immersed in this new operation after a crushing defeat in the Lebanese arena. Thus Sudan becomes the Trojan horse which is looking for the United States and giving free rein to its lackey symbols in Egypt to advance in great strides in order to reach this objective. [sentence as received].

This is the current picture in mind. All the spoken accusations and all of what is repeated by the terrified media in the Sudan and Egypt against Libya are nothing but excuses for this purpose, as Libya has never hidden its support for the popular revolution in the south of the Sudan. Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, because of his role as inciter of the masses of the Arab nation to smash the tools of injustice and dictatorship, has said nothing but the truth and has directed his call to people in whose bosoms there is enthusiasm for revolution and change and who are eager to get rid of tyranny and an agent ruler called Ja'far Muhammad Numayri who lost today his power to rule this Arab country after his Western-tied policies made the Sudanese people suffer the agonies of poverty.

Here are the people just practicing their right and expressing their will to change by all means they consider necessary and appropriate. Their attempt, last Friday, to strike at the mouthpieces of the regime and destroy them has been in the right and legitimate direction.

What justification does Husni Mubarak's regime, the American Administration and all those who are crying have to move their forces and reinforce their presence? The Sudanese people are the fierce opponent of an unjust regime and a tyrant who has tied his destiny to America and burdened the country with debts which exceeded all limits.

Opposing the will of the Sudanese people means the direct intervention in the internal affairs of this ancient people. Under any criterion, these people have the right to throw this regime away, to bring forth a revolution against the occupation, and to break the picture of the new Mamelukes which governs the general atmosphere in the Sudan. It is even one of the rights of all those peoples who reject the American control and the dictatorial tyranny tools to stand by the Sudanese people, to defeat the march of the occupiers and to defeat all their current schemes to invade the Sudan. The tail Numayri has lost his legitimacy and the Sudanese people have the right to cut his rotten head and to destroy all his treacherous supporters who are cheering the forward troops of the occupying Egyptian forces which have already taken their positions in Wadi Sayyidna in Omdurman and have tightened their grips on the entrances and exits of Khartoum.

We appeal to the international conscience to stand by the Sudanese people in its crisis and to support its natural and legitimate right to choose the ruler who suits it and to reject firmly the intervention policy adopted by the American Administration.

JANA Cites Belgian Paper on Sudanese 'Revolution'

LD161913 Tripoli JANA in English 1806 GMT 16 Mar 84

["The Explosive Situation in Sudan" — JANA headline]

[Text] Brussels, Jumada Thani 12, March 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — *LE SOIR* Belgian newspaper yesterday took up the explosive situation in Sudan in its main editorial.

The paper said that the eruption of the revolution came as a result of the regime's behaviour at all levels which impelled the opposition to uprise and carry arms against the Khartoum government. Numayri's promises were not fulfilled and famine spread throughout the country while the country's economy is on the brink of bankruptcy. Furthermore, Sudan despite its wealth and capabilities is now depending on foreign aid.

The paper went on to say that the revolutionaries have dealt severe blows to the regime of hireling Numayri which is trying by all means to abort the uprising and to purge the army from pro-revolutionary officers and soldiers. Mutinies were reported in southern barracks and Numayri retaliated with force killing hundreds and forcing nearly 2,000 servicemen to escape and join the revolutionary ranks to fight along the popular army's lines to liberate Sudan.

Envoys Informed of Stance on Omdurman Raid

LD181447 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison summoned separately today each of the ambassadors of the steadfastness and confrontation front countries, ambassadors of the remaining Arab countries and the ambassadors of the African countries accredited in the Jamahiriyah, and briefed them on the true reality and nature of the fabricated allegations made by the lackey Numayri regime in Khartoum against the Jamahiriyah and the false claim of the existence of a Libyan connection with the revolution attempt carried out by the Sudanese Air Force the day before yesterday, which resulted in the destruction of both the radio and the television stations in Omdurman.

The committee stressed the essence of the Arab Libyan firm and

principled stance in rejecting the fabricated allegations by the lackey Numayri's regime in Sudan which aim at creating offense and at giving the imperialist countries a pretext for intervening in Sudan and for directing the aggression against the Arab Libyan people, whom the lackey Numayri unceasingly and officially at every occasion has threatened with invasion and aggression.

The Committee categorically refuted the Khartoum government's allegations, stressing that the chain of lies and fabrications by the lackey Numayri has no foundation; in fact it is a premedicated plot by the U.S. Administration seeking to intensify its hostile campaign against the people of the Jamahiriyah by an open and flagrant collusion with the reactionary and agent symbols in the area.

The committee asked the ambassadors to inform their governments of the Jamahiriyah's catagorical denial of the Khartoum ruler's claims that the SPLAJ was behind the air raid over Omdurman radio station last Friday, and to stresss that the false allegations by the lackey Numayri that Sudan was exposed to alleged foreign attacks is nothing but an excuse to win over the sympathy of the U.S. Administration, the colonial peoples, and the reactionary forces and to justify the intervention of these countries' forces to buttress his falling regime, and that the Jamahiriyah challenges the ruler of Kahrtoum to present any evidence to support his false and contradictory allegations.

Polish Delegation Arrives for Cooperation Talks

LD182053 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1840 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Mar JANA — The deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, Janusz Obodowski, and his accompanying delegation this afternoon arrived in Tripoli on a visit to Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Janusz Obodowski made a statement to the JANA correspondent at the Tripoli International Airport in which he expressed his deep satisfaction at this visit. He pointed out that this visit will be a good opportunity to hold talks aimed at discussing joint cooperation between the two friendly countries. He added that this visit came within the continuing contacts between the two countries and will contribute to the strengthening and developing of bilateral cooperation to the interest of the Libyan Arab and Polish peoples.

Meets Treasury, Utility Ministers

LD200957 Tripoli JANA in English 0917 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 16, Mar 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The secretary of the General People's Committee for the Treasury, Brother Muhammad al-Qasim Sharlala and the secretary of the General Committee for Public Utilities and in charge of housing, engineer Muhammad 'Ubayd ash-Shukri held a meeting with the Polish Deputy Prime Minister, Janusz Obodwoski, during which they discussed the subject of bilateral relations of cooperation between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Poland and methods to promote means of coopera[illegible] for the interests of the two peoples.

Chief of Staff Receives Obodowski

LD211506 Tripoli JANA in English 1404 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 17, March 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Brigadier Mustafa al-Kharrubi, chief of staff of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, received today the Polish Deputy Prime Minister Janusz Obodowski who is visiting the Jamahiriyah.

PLO's Abu Salih Arrives on Visit, Makes Statement

LD192059 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 2015 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Mar (JANA) — Brother Abu Salih, member of the provisional revolutionary leadership of Fatah, arrived in Tripoli this evening on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Brother Abu Salih made a statement to JANA in which he affirmed the great role shouldered by the Great 1 September Revolution in the defeat of the United States in Lebanon and the cancellation of the humiliating agreement that had been signed by the Lebanese Government and the Zionist enemy. He said: We have come to exchange views, this time proudly, with the brothers in the Jamahiriyah on the continuation of the struggle for inflicting defeat on the plans of the United States and its reactionary agents. Hence, we have come to Tripoli to talk about renewing the pledge and the promise to continue forward in one line for the sake of realizing new victories for the Palestinian people, the Palestinian revolution, and the Arab liberation movement.

Lebanese Deputy Thanks Al-Qadhdhafi for Help

LD162142 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1850 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Mar (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution today received colonel Fu'ad Lahhud, chairman of the Defense and Security Committee of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, who is currently visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Col Fu'ad Lahhud highly praised the importance of the overwhelming victory scored by the Lebanese patriotic forces against the forces of the Atlantic alliance. He particularly noted the leading role played by the Great Al-Fatih Revolution in realizing and asserting this victory.

In a special statement to JANA in the last 2 days Col Fu'ad Lahhud stressed that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi played an effective role in helping us to achieved what we have in Lebanon today.

In his statement he praised the aid given by the Jamahiriyah to Lebanon. He said: I am not surprised at the attitude of the Jamahiriyah toward Lebanon because I have sensed the truth of the good feelings of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi toward Lebanon on more than one occasion.

He added: I will never forget what the Libyan people have given in aid and support to the Lebanese people and in standing alongside them in the struggle, which reached its climax with the cancellation of the detested 17 May agreement.

Col Lahhud said that nothing deterred the determination and resolution of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi from providing all the assistance and aid to bring Lebanon out of its trials and that his new initiative is a new assertion of this determination and resolution.

MAURITANIA

PRC Envoy Gives Aid To Help Drought Victims

AB217046 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 430 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Captain Moulaye Hachem Ould Moulaye Ahmed, the commissioner for food security, received this morning the PRC ambassador who presented to him, on behalf of the Chinese Red Cross, a check for Fr 400,000, the equivalent of 3.8 million ouguiyas, to assist the people affected by the drought. This aid, the PRC ambassador said, testifies to the solidarity of the Chinese people with the people of Mauritania in this difficult challenge presented by the drought. The commissioner for food security asked the Chinese diplomat to kindly transmit to the Chinese people the gratitude of the Mauritanian people and their national leadership for this sign of solidarity shown by the Chinese people through this gesture.

MOROCCO

Government Examining RSA-Mozambique Accord

LD201307 Rabat MAP in English 1211 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] Rabat, Mar 20 (MAP) — Moroccan authorized sources disclosed here Monday that following the signing of an "accord of non-aggression and neighborliness" between Mozambique and South Africa, the Moroccan Government was currently examining this dossier with a view to discussing all its aspects and more particularly all the implications and consequences it will have on concerned liberation movements, as well as on the whole of Africa. Some agencies dispatches having reported on Morocco's stance regarding this accord. The same sources specified that the Moroccan Government will make its stance clearly and definitely known once it finishes studying the dossier.

Rabat Says U.S. 'Astounded' by Husayn Criticism

LD161358 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] The U.S. Administration has been astounded and perplexed by King Husayn of Jordan's criticism of U.S. policy in the Middle East which he said has lost credence in the region.

This is evident from statements made by U.S. officials commenting on the Jordanian monarch's criticism. A State Department spokesman expressed what he described as the dismay this criticism has caused. But the White House spokesman affirmed that relations between the two countries will not be affected by these statements.

The U.S. Administration's perplexity is evident by its failure to adopt any clear stand toward the Jordanian monarch's criticism, which reflects the failure of attempts by President Reagan to pursue a balanced policy in the Middle East aimed at preserving Washington's relations with the Arab countries and avoiding the pressure of the Zionist lobby in Congress during the coming presidential elections.

Planning Minister, USSR Envoy Confer

LD170043 Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Rabat, 16 Mar (MAP) — Mr M'Hamed Douiri, the Moroccan minister for planning, cadre training and vocational training, received Mr Malik Fazylov, the USSR's ambassador to Rabat, there on Thursday.

Mr Douiri and the Soviet diplomat took advantage of this opportunity to examine the relations of cooperation between the two countries and to study the means for consolidating economic links between Morocco and the Soviet Union, particularly in cadre training and vocational training.

Gambia President Jawara Arrives 20 March

LD211111 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Casablanca, 21 Mar (MAP) — Gambia President Mr Dawda Jawara arrived last night at Mohamed V International Airport in Casablanca on a private visit to Morocco. A unit of the national guard saluted the Gambian president. The Gambian president was received by Mr Azzedine Guessous, Moroccan minister of commerce, industry and tourism, and a number of civilian and military dignitaries.

Economic Agreements Signed With UAE

LD211303 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Rabat March 21 (MAP) — Morocco and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) concluded here Tuesday cooperation agreement in economic, commercial and technical areas. The agreement was signed by Moroccan Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism Mr. Azeddine Guessous and the UAE minister of Economy and Commerce, Mr. Sayf al-Jarwan. On this occasion, the two ministers expressed satisfaction at the signing of this agreement which would further consolidate relations between the two countries hoping it would constitute a new impetus toward the creation of a common Arab market.

Portugal's Gama Arrives, Makes Statement

LD212049 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Portuguese Foreign Minister Dr Jaime Gama has affirmed that there has been clear development in trade relations between Morocco and Portugal. Dr Gama was speaking on arrival in Morocco this evening. He expressed his belief that his visit to Morocco will provide an opportunity for useful constructive talks with a view to deepening diplomatic, political, and cultural relations between the two countries.

He affirmed both countries' common interest in the prevalence of stability in the eastern Atlantic and the gateway of the Mediterranean. He said that Morocco plays a prominent role on the Arab and Islamic levels, as well as on the level of the African Continent. He pointed out that Morocco and Portugal constitute a strategic bridge between Europe and Africa. He said this bridge should be bolstered by the consolidation of the two countries' relations, which have grown and developed over a period of 12 centuries.

He also spoke of the role Morocco and Portugal can play in safeguarding peace and stability in the region and of their desire to establish relations free of hegemony and expansion. He spoke of the need for Morocco and Portugal to play vanguard roles on the economic level and with regard to political issues. He pointed out that the histories of Portugal and Morocco cannot be understood in isolation.

Dr Gama was received on his arrival at Mohamed V Airport by Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdelouahed Belkziz, the Portuguese ambassador to Rabat, and the Moroccan ambassador to Lisbon.

SUDAN

Juba Masses Protest Libyan Air Raid

JN211447 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1416 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Juba, 21 Mar (SUNA) — The masses of the city of Juba conducted a big popular march yesterday protesting the Libyan raid on the city of Omdurman last Friday. Francis Wagu, deputy governor of the Equatorial Region, addressed the march saying that this mass assembly is additional proof of our national unity. It also emphasizes to the enemies of the revolution both domestic and foreign that our people are deeply rooted. He added that the masses of the Equatorial Region will remain loyal to the revolution and its leader. He denounce the Libyan conspiracies against Sudan and condemned the forces that support Libya in its aggression.

Habre Cables Numayri on Libyan 'Aggression'

JN211503 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1438 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Mar (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has received a cable from Chadian President Hissein Habre condemning the ugly crime that the terrorist, expansionist regime of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had committed, a crime that resulted in killing a number of innocent citizens in the city of Omdurman and damaging some government buildings.

In his cable, President Habre said that criminal action has become characteristic of the aggressive, Al-Qadhdhafi regime, which remains aloof from any punishment or deterrence by the international community that has erred in allowing Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to continue his aggressions, which contradict all international norms and laws. He also expressed his condolences to the Sudanese people and government and the families of the innocent people who were victims of the unjust aggression.

Civilian Flights To Be Restored With Chad

JN212008 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Mar (SUNA) — An agreement was reached between the civil aviation authorities in Sudan and Chad to restore a weekly flight for the Chadian airlines to Sudan via Ndjamena, Abeche, Al-Junaynah and back upon a request from the Republic of Chad. A delegation from the Chadian Civil Aviation Authority yesterday ended a 4-day visit to the country during which agreement was also reached to aid the Chad Civil Aviation Authority in the framework of bilateral relations. It is worth mentioning that the Sudanese Airlines Authority, which has been transformed into a company, runs a flight from Khartoum to Ndjamena once weekly.

Bahr al-Ghazal People's Assembly Condemns Raid

JN201929 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1710 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] Wau (Sudan), Mar 20 (SUNA)— The People's Assembly of Bahr al-Ghazal region "southern Sudan" heavily condemned the sabotage aggression against Omdurman that aimed at destablilizing the security, unity, and sovereignty of the country. In its session yesterday the regional assembly confirmed its support to President Numayri's leadership. Governer of Bahr al-Ghazal Laurence Wol Wol addressed the session pointing out that this is not the first aggession being organized by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi against the unity and safety of Sudan. In 1976 Al-Qadhdhafi tried to attack Sudan by sending mercenaries but he was defeated by Sudanese Armed Forces. He added that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has also tended to harm the national unity by supporting the outlaws in southern Sudan.

Letter on Air Raid Circulated at Security Council

JN211925 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] United Nations, 21 Mar (SUNA) — A letter from 'Umar Yusuf Baridu, Sudan's permanent representative to the United Nations, addressed to the President of the UN Security Council, was circulated today as a Security Council document. The letter

requests a meeting of the UN Security Council to look into the aggression committed by Libya against Sudan, which constitutes a link in the continued aggressive actions carried out by the Libyan regime against the security, safety, and unity of Sudan's land.

The letter contains a description of the Libyan air raid on the Sudanese city of Omdurman that was carried out by a Soviet made Tupolev TU-22 bomber from the Libyan military abse in Al-Kufrah. The letter condemns the Libyan aggression against the sovereignty of Sudan and stressed that Sudan reserves the right to defend itself. The letter requests that the Security Council take convincing measures to preserve the security of the UN member state.

Minister Praises Jordan's Mideast Stance
JN201638 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Mar (PETRA) — Mustafa Madani, Sudanese minister of state for foreign affairs, has described Jordanian-Sudanese relations as excellent, and added that Sudan highly appreciates His Majesty King Husayn's pan-Arab positions toward the Arab cause, foremost of which is the Palestinian cause. He added that his country supports Jordan in its demand for amending the Arab League Charter to stipulate the need to accept the majority's opinion during any vote on resolutions instead of requiring unanimity, which paralyzes many resolutions. He added that consensus is one of the Arab League Charter's main objectives, and those who drew up the charter believed that all the Arabs would adopt a unified position. But, circumstances have proved that it is difficult to achieve that — a fact that necessitates a resort to the majority's opinion.

Madani asserted that his country supports the PLO and its legitimate leadership, and said that the PLO managed to gain the world's respect and support, and that the absence of the present leadership would negatively affect the PLO's international gains. He also announced that his country supports every step that Jordan and the PLO adopt. He said Jordan and the PLO have the full right to agree on anything to secure the interests of the two peoples.

The minister praised Sudan's relations with Egypt, and said: We seek to realize an integration between the two countries starting from the base up to the top, and we have made good progress in this regard. He stressed the need for Egypt to return to the Arab League, and said that Sudan will exert every effort to realize that, asserting Egypt's political, cultural, and military importance.

The minister called for strengthening Arab solidarity and holding an Arab summit in Riyadh as soon as possible, emphasizing that all the Arab countries should participate in this summit, otherwise, it will not achieve anything. He added that there are some difficulties obstructing the convening of the summit, and expressed his hope that the Arabs would overcome these difficulties.

Asked about Sudan's role in combating the Zionist enemy in Africa, he said that since 1973, the Sudanese Government has held intensive contacts in coordination with the Arab countries to confront the Zionist influence in Africa and managed to persuade all the African countries to sever their relations with Israel. He also said that Sudan led an OAU committee, called the seven-member committee, which recommended the promotion of Arab-African cooperation. He added that a 24-member committee consisting of 12 African states and 12 Arab states has recently been formed. The committee, during its recent meeting, decided to hold an Arab-African meeting on the foreign ministers' level in the near future in preparation for holding a new Arab-African summit conference. He added that Sudan seeks to realize success for the summit to prevent Israel from returning to the African countries.

MENA Cites Al-Baz Statements in Khartoum
NC181635 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Mar (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has affirmed that the cohesion and strength of the Sudanese front and of the Egyptian front represent a solid base capable of safeguarding the strategic security of the integration state.

In statements to the MENA correspondent in Khartoum after attending part of the Sudanese People's Assembly session today, Al-Baz expressed pleasure with the vigilance the Assembly members demonstrated during today's session. This, Dr al-Baz added, confirms the cohesion of the Sudanese front. The session was attended by the Egyptian ambassador in Khartoum. Dr al-Baz is scheduled to return to Cairo tomorrow.

Meanwhile, Dr al-Baz made statements to the Sudanese media today in which he said Egypt and Sudan agreed during the past 2 days on specific steps to handle the current situation and any other similar situation in the future. Dr al-Baz continued: Every Egyptian and every Sudanese should rest assured that our domestic front in the north and south of the valley is capable of facing the various outcomes with determined and tenacious steps that will give the aggressor a sharp lesson.

Viewing his visit to Khartoum, Dr al-Baz said it is part of the ongoing consultation between Egyptian and Sudanese officials within the context of integration. It is also intended to discuss the situation following the recent attack on Omdurman.

Dr al-Baz pointed out that his talks with Sudanese officials have focused on ways and means to confront the situation on the political, military, and information levels.

In conclusion, Dr al-Baz affirmed that the Nile valley will remain an oasis of security and stability.

TUNISIA

Kuwaiti Paper: Cabinet Reshuffle Imminent

GF181444 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
17 Mar 84 pp 1,13

[Muhammad Ahmad al-Qabisi dispatch from Tunis]

[Excerpt] *AL-QABAS* has learned that Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba will shortly amend the Tunisian Constitution to appoint his prime minister, Mohamed Mzali, as vice president, and to give the premiership to the current Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi.

Among those who will be in the new Cabinet, which will aim at preserving a balance among the various currents in Tunisia, is Mohamed (Es-Sayah), former minister of installations [title as published] and current ambassador in Rome. An eyewitness has told *AL-QABAS* that President Bourguiba embraced (Es-Sayah) during the celebrations of the golden jubilee for the Constitutional Party saying: "I will bring you back to the Cabinet." It has been reported in Tunis that the Ministry of Interior portfolio will probably be given to (Es-Sayah).

PRC Foreign Minister To Visit 6-10 Apr

LD211553 Tunis TAP in French 1300 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Tunis, 21 Mar (TAP)— The Tunisian Ministry of Foreign affairs announces: "At the invitation of Tunisian Foreign Minister Mr Beji Caid es-Sebsi, Mr Wu Xueqian, state councillor and minister of foreign affairs of the PRC, will pay an official friendship visit to Tunisia 6 to 10 April 1984."

CAMEROON

Mali's Traore Meets With Biya During Stopover

AB211315 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Malian head of state General Moussa Traore made a 1-hour refueling stopover in Yaounde this morning. The Malian president, who is accompanied by his wife and a 33-member delegation, will today start a tour of three African countries including Burundi, Tanzania, and Egypt. President Moussa Traore and his wife were welcomed by President Biya and his wife. Before taking off for Bujumbura, the Malian head of state told our reporter, Antoine-Marie Ngono, about his talks with his Cameroonian counterpart.

[Begin recording] I would first like to thank President Paul Biya, the members of his government, and all the Cameroonian people for the extremely warm and brotherly reception which was accorded to my delegation and myself. During my short stopover in Yaounde, I had very fruitful talks with my brother and friend Paul Biya on bilateral issues and on African and world issues of common interest. That is what I can tell you about our talks. I believe that he will very shortly visit me in Bamako where we will then have the opportunity to pursue these fruitful talks. [end recording]

CONGO

Anniversary of Diplomatic Ties With USSR Celebrated

AB201906 Paris AFP in French 1530 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 20 Mar [AFP] — On Tuesday the Congo and the Soviet Union celebrate the 20th anniversary of their diplomatic relations. This was announced by the CONGOLESE NEWS AGENCY [ACI].

On this occasion, the foreign ministers of the two countries, Mr Andrey Gromyko and Mr Pierre Nze, exchanged messages of congratulations. Mr Gromyko paid tribute to Congo for the struggle it is engaged in "for the ultimate elimination of colonialism, racism and apartheid," and Mr Nze expressed pleasure over the Soviet Union's support for his country and to "liberation movements."

At a press conference on Monday Mr Vladimir Lobachev, the Soviet ambassador to Brazzaville, recalled that his country had granted loans totaling 34 billion CFA francs (Fr 680 million) and "free" financial aid worth 9 billion CFA francs (Fr 18 million) to Congo.

RWANDA

Foreign Minister Ngarukiyintwali Visits Italy

For ANSA reportage on Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Francois Ngarukiyintwali's 3-day visit to Italy, including his planned talks with Italian officials and visits to the FAO and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, see the Italy & the Vatican section of the 22 March Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

GHANA

Ghali-Led Egyptian Delegation Arrives in Accra

AB220820 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Excerpt] A five man Egyptian Government delegation led by the minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, has arrived in Accra at the start of a 3-day visit to Ghana.

Speaking to newsmen at Kotoka International Airport, Dr Ghali said he will be delivering a message of friendship and solidarity from the Egyptian leader, President Mubarak, to the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings. He will also hold talks with the foreign affairs secretary, Dr Obed Asamoah, on problems facing the OAU.

Cultural Cooperation Agreement Signed With Cuba

AB211920 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] Ghana and Cuba have signed an agreement on cultural and bilateral cooperation between them. It was signed in Accra today by the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, and the Cuban minister of foreign affairs, Mr Isidoro Malmierca.

Under the agreement, both countries will, among other things, exchange information on areas of mutual interest as well as matters relating to the development of the bilateral relations between them. In addition, Ghana and Cuba will exchange publications and materials which are of mutual importance and organize the exchange of experiences between their mass media.

In a speech, Dr Obed Asamoah recalled that a cultural agreement between Ghana and Cuba was signed in 1964 but it was not ratified until the Provisional National Defense Council came to power. On his part, Mr Malmierca said the exchange of instruments of ratification completes the legal framework of the agreement. He said his visit to Ghana testifies to the cordial relations between the two countries.

Government Ready To Aid Fight Against Apartheid

AB212011 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Ghana has expressed her readiness to provide men and materiel to wipe out the odious apartheid system from the continent. In a statement issued in Accra today in connection with the 24th anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre in South Africa, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the struggle against apartheid should continue, for as a crime against humanity, it must be eradicated. The statement cautioned that South Africa must not be allowed to implement the obnoxious act of 1960 to perpetuate apartheid through the creation of so-called homelands for Africans.

In this connection, Ghana vehemently condemns the latest attempt to rob another 500,000 Africans of their citizenship by creating by the end of the year the fifth bantustan, KwaNdebele.

The statement reaffirms Ghana's solidarity with the freedom fighters of South Africa, particularly, the ANC and the PAC [Pan-African Congress]. It paid special tribute to the aggression by the apartheid regime [sentence as received]. Without their sacrifice, the impact of resistance will not have been felt by South Africa, the statement added.

In a message, the Ghana National Committee Against Apartheid advised the frontline states not to lose sight of the ultimate objective of the liberation struggle, that is, majority rule in the whole of southern Africa, including South Africa itself. It noted that the recent agreements between South Africa and Mozambique and Angola may be a tactical step in the struggle, but it hoped that the ANC and SWAPO would not be abandoned to the enemy.

GUINEA

Joint Commission Meeting With Romania Begins

AB212101 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The seventh session of the Guinea-Romania Joint Commission began its deliberations today at 1000 at the 14 September Hall of the People's Palace in Conakry under the chairmanship of Dr Mamouna Toure, member of the Central Committee and minister of foreign trade. Dr Mamouna Toure said that with renewed pleasure he welcomes friends from the People's Republic of Romania to Conakry, and that he wishes them a pleasant welcome and stay in the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, on behalf of the people of Guinea, the party-state, the Guinean Government and especially on behalf of the supreme leader of the revolution, Comrade President Ahmed Sekou Toure. If we have decided to meet periodically in a joint commission, it is to consolidate our relations of friendship and militant brotherhood, and especially to strengthen our economic relations by increasing trade between our two countries, Comrade Dr Mamouna Toure continued.

At the end of his speech, working committees were set up to examine the various aspects of the development of economic cooperation between our two countries.

The Romanian delegation, which arrived in our country yesterday at 1700, is led by Alexandru Rosu, state secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation. The delegation will be in our country until Friday, 23 March 1984.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Former Prime Minister's Wife Released 18 Mar

AB191010 Paris AFP in French 0723 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Bissau, 19 Mar [AFP] — Mrs Maria Augusta Saude Maria, who was arrested about a week ago following the dismissal of her husband as prime minister, was released on Sunday, it was learned from an informed source in Bissau.

The release of the former prime minister's wife, however, has not been confirmed officially. Mr Saude Maria is still in the Portuguese Embassy where he sought refuge and requested political asylum.

The Guinea-Bissau Government is, however, opposed to his leaving Bissau, stated the minister of foreign affairs in Lisbon on Saturday.

According to Guinea-Bissau authorities, Mrs Saude Maria was arrested for contacting diplomatic missions (which were not disclosed) in Bissau with the aim of preparing the coup d'etat planned by her husband.

IVORY COAST

'Courageous' Dialogue in Southern Africa Lauded

AB191730 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 17/18 Mar 84 p 24

[Gaoussou Kamissoko editorial: "Simple Dialogue"]

[Text] "Africa humiliated," "dialogue under constraint," "tactical withdrawal," were the descriptions of the movement of conciliation which has been going on in southern Africa in recent months and which culminated in the proposal by President Kaunda for a summit of African heads of state and government.

Forced dialogue, or dialogue of consent? Dialogue all the same, one would be tempted to tell those who, in the name of a solidarity which does not go beyond the limits of conference halls, proclaim their support for bloody crusades.

The dialogue suggested by Maputo and Lusaka, after all, is only the confirmation of the reality of exchanges required today by economic structures inherited from the British and Portugues colonial masters. From Cecil Rhodes to Salazar, the Western colonial masters have shaped and articulated the economies of these carved-up countries to suit the needs of the overseas industries; transportation infrastructures and industrial units were thus so closely articulated that the most ardent desires for independence have no other choice than to bow to these needs. If the dependence of countries like Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia is limited in view of their geographical positions, the little-known dependence of several other African states is not a negligible argument for dialogue.

Dialogue in short, the dialogue of Kaunda and Houphouet-Boigny, before anything, is the courageous and clear consideration of the realities against which the redundant declamations by revolutionaries — from whom mystic Azania is still expecting the first soldier — are militating. They are the same people who pretend to ignore the international dimensions of the South African problem, which lie behind the tragedy of apartheid denounced on South African soil even by Ivory Coast.

States like Zambia or Mozambique do not have any lesson of nationalism to receive from anybody. Their proposals for dialogue only confirm the Ivorian analysis and constitute a new argument in favor of efforts aimed at waving off the fear and hatred prevailing today among South Africans — a white minority tormented by psychosis, a black majority which has become a people of immigrants on their own soil.

Was it necessary to wait for the threat of suffocation now prevailing on the frontline states to resort to dialogue, that weapon of the powerful which Ivory Coast resorted to courageously and which, everyone sees today, was legitimate?

LIBERIA

Referendum Rescheduled from 28 March to 8 April

AB211932 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The holding of the referendum and voters registration has been rescheduled from 28 March to 8 April 1984. But there are fears that the timetable would still be delayed if the 90 days requested by the Advisory Assembly is granted. Commenting on the issue, the head of state observed that the timetable was in fact designed to make the People's Redemption Council, PRC, appear ridiculous.

Many cabinet ministers expressed the view that the delay in the timetable was inevitable considering the issues raised by both the Advisory Assembly and the Elections Commission.

The commander in chief, who described the advisory's request as paradoxical, said the military should not be blamed if the country's politicians failed to provide good guidelines by which the country will move forward. Commander in Chief Doe said that it was the responsibility of people charged with public office to perform as planned.

Committee To Review Education Campaign Extension

AB211938 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The head of state has appointed a six-man committee drawn from the cabinet, the Constitutional Advisory Assembly, the Elections Commission and the public to review the request of the commission for an extension of 90 days to conduct an education campaign on the new Constitution. The head of state said in addition to dealing with the 90-day request, the committee is also mandated to review the entire timetable and make possible recommendations for the consideration of the People's Redemption Council.

The appointments made today by the commander in chief consist of the following persons: Mr Moses O. Harris, chairman; Reverend H. Victor Striker, cochairman; Major Foday Kromah, minister of lands, mines and energy, member; Major Patrick Minikon, minister of national security, member; Counselor Isaac Nyemploo, member of Elections Commission, member; Mr Ake Bernard, secretary, Constitutional Advisory Assembly, member.

It can be recalled that another request was made last September by the Advisory Assembly at the time meeting in Bong County for additional 32 days and additional amount of over $62,000 for the completion of their work. At that time the head of state set up an eight-man commission to investigate their demand.

Ban Lifted on Sale of Firearms in Nimba

AB200850 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] The (?20) years ban imposed on shooting and the sale of firearms in Nimba county last year has been lifted by Head of State Commander in Chief Samuel K. Doe. [sentence as heard] The ban followed the raid on the Yekepa bank by a group of armed men. LINA [Liberian National News Agency] quotes a release from the office of Nimba County Superintendent Colonel J. Gomga Woki as saying all citizens and residents in the county have been told to go about their normal business with regard to the purchase and sale of firearms and ammunition.

Col Woki effected the ban last November after he took over as acting supreintendent, as he put it, to improve the situation in the county following the shooting of several persons at the [words indistinct]. The lifting of the ban came shortly after the recent visit to Nimba County by Head of State Samuel Doe.

MALI

Gen Traore Departs on Three-Nation Africa Tour

AB212105 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The head of state left Bamako this morning for a series of official visits to three African countries — Burundi, Tanzania and Egypt. General Moussa Traore is accompanied by his wife, two members of the Central Executive Bureau, and the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation.

Communique Issued Following Haydala Visit

AB211130 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Final Communique issued in Bamako on 20 March at the end of Mauritanian head of state Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala's friendly and working visit to Mali from 19 to 20 March]

[Excerpts] His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, paid a friendly and working visit to the Republic of Mali from 19 to 20 March 1984. President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala and his delegation were accorded a warm and fraternal welcome by President Moussa Traore, high-ranking officials of the party and the government, and a large number of militants of the Malian People's Democratic Union [UDPM].

President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala held private discussions with President Moussa Traore in an atmosphere of brotherhood, cordiality, and mutual understanding. During their discussions, the two heads of state appreciated the excellent age-long relations exisiting in various fields between the Mauritanian and Malian peoples, which are based on positive good-neighborliness, cooperation, and fraternal solidarity.

The two heads of state also held a working session which was attended on the Malian side by His Excellency Djibril Diallo, political director of the UDPM; [name indistinct], secretary for organization of the UDPM; His Excellency Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; His Excellency Mohamed Housseni Toure, permanent secretary at the presidency of the Republic; His Excellency Mamadou Diarra, Malian ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. On the Mauritanian side His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Minnih, member of the CMSN and minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation was in

During this working session, the heads of state exchanged views on all issues affecting Mauritanian-Malian cooperation as well as on the situation prevailing in Africa and the rest of the world. On bilateral cooperation, the two heads of state expressed satisfaction with the good understanding that has always marked their relations and decided to try to further strengthen and develop the cooperation between our two countries. The two heads of state also examined the ways and means of extending this cooperation to all fields, especially through the strengthening of the Grand Joint Mauritanian-Malian Cooperation Commission. The two heads of state examined the dramatic situation created by the drought and the persistent desert encroachment hindering the development efforts of all the countries of the region.

On international and inter-African cooperation, the two heads of state resolutely decided to work for the consolidation of all the regional and subregional organizations to which their countries belong — the ECOWAS, the West African Economic Community, the Senegal River Development Organization, and the [word indistinct]. Concerning the situation prevailing on the African Continent, the two heads of state expressed their profound concern about the repeated foreign interference in African affairs.

Concerning the Chadian crisis, the two heads of state expressed the opinion that the solution depends on national reconciliation, the stopping of all interference, and respect for the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Chad. On Western Sahara, the two heads of state reiterated their firm support for Resolution (?64) [words indistinct] of the OAU and urged Morocco and the Polisario Front to hold direct negotiations in order to achieve a permanent cease-fire in Western Sahara.

On southern Africa, the two heads of state vehemently condemned the apartheid policy of the minority South African racist regime and reaffirmed their support for the ANC's just struggle against the apartheid regime and for the advent of a just, democratic, and free society in South Africa. The two heads of state reaffirmed their unconditional support for the SWAPO, the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people in their independence struggle. In this regard, they were of the opinion that UN Resolution 435 constitutes a means of achieving a just and final solution to the problem. The two heads of state reaffirmed their support for the frontline countries in their struggle to safeguard their sovereignty and territorial integrity for the triumph of the legitimate rights of the peoples of southern Africa.

Touching on the situation prevailing in the Middle East, the two heads of state condemned Israel's annexation policy and asked that country to return all the occupied Arab territories including the holy city of Jerusalem. They also reiterated their unflinching support for the PLO, the true representative of the Palestinian people.

Finally, the two heads of state reiterated their support for the principles and objectives of the United Nations, the movement of nonaligned countries, and the OAU and promised to contribute positively to the safeguarding of international security and the establishment of a new world order. On behalf of his delegation and on his own behalf, President Khouna Ould Haydala thanked President Moussa Traore, the people of Mali and their party and government for the warm and exceptional welcome accorded them during their visit to Mali.

Issued in Bamako on 20 March 1984.

[Signed] For the Republic of Mali: General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the UDPM and the head of state

For the Islamic Republic of Mauritania: Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state

NIGER

Kountche Returns From Upper Volta, Togo Visits

AB212015 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Excerpt] It has just been learned that President Seyni Kountche has returned to Niamey after a visit to Upper Volta and Togo. He was met on arrival by Mamane Oumarou, the chairman of the National Council for Development, and by Lieutenant Colonel Ali Seibou, the chief of staff of the Niger Armed Forces. President Kountche was also met by Hamid Algabit, the prime minister, members of the Supreme Military Council and the government, as well as several other personalities.

Commission Meeting on Trade With Benin Opens

AB212140 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Benin-Niger Consultative Commission meeting on trade opened this morning in the conference hall of the Entente Council. The official opening ceremony was jointly chaired by our minister of commerce and transportation, Amadou Nouhou and by his Beninese counterpart, Ayayi Manasse. Also present at this opening ceremony were the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Ide Oumarou, the secretary of state for commerce and transportation, Al Moustapha Soumaila, and the ambassador of the People's Republic of Benin to Niger.

Speaking at the ceremony, the minister of commerce and transportation said that today's meeting falls within the framework of the desire often expressed by the Niger and Beninese heads of state to explore all the possibilities of cooperation existing between our two peoples in order to [words indistinct]. The development expectations of this modern world, he added, make it obligatory for us to seek ways and means of making relations between our countries more dynamic. This, the minister said, is the basic objective of this meeting.

NIGERIA

Further Reports on Egyptian Foreign Minister's Visit

OAU Summit Postponement Considered

AB211815 Paris AFP in English 1622 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Lagos, March 21 (AFP) — The next Organization of African Unity summit scheduled for Conakry, Guinea, in May should be postponed unless a solution has been found previously to the Western Saharan problem, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said here today.

But Mr Ghali, winding up a three-day visit here, told a press conference that Egypt's attendance at the summit did not depend on the presence or absence of representatives of the disputed Saharan Arab Democratic Republic where Morocco is fighting Polisario guerrillas for control.

The important thing was for the Conakry summit to be successful. The future of the pan-African organisation was more important than anything else, he added.

Nigerian leader General Muhammadu Buhari meanwhile announced that Lagos planned to convene a meeting of the OAU's Implementation Committee on Western Sahara of which it is a member. But he did not specify a date.

At his press conference Mr Ghali said Nigeria and Egypt continued to support the government of Hissein Habre. Mr Ghali also referred to Friday's air raid on the Sudanese town of Omdurman in which five people were killed. Such has [passage indistinct] countries. But he denied that Washington's decision to (?send AWACS) (Airborne Warning and Control aircraft) radar planes to the region was an internationalisation of the situation.

Buhari To Visit Egypt

AB220925 Lagos NAN in English 0910 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, Mar 21 (NAN) — The head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, has accepted an invitation from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to visit Egypt, the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, said today in Lagos.

Speaking at the signing of a joint Nigeria-Egypt communique on the talks he held with the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, Dr Gambari said that the two countries had a crucial role to play in fostering the unity of the OAU.

The minister said that the two countries attached much importance on the survival of the continental organization and would lend their support in its bid to find solutions to problems facing the continent. He said that he had "fruitful talk" with the Egyptian minister on bilateral and continental issues as well as on the Middle East.

Communique Issued

AB211715 Lagos NAN in English 1635 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, March 21 (NAN) — Nigeria and Egypt today emphasised the importance of increasing the volume of trade between them in compliance with the Lagos plan of action.

A communique issued in Lagos at the end of a three-day visit to Nigeria by the Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali said that the two countries discussed the need to take active steps to implement the agreement on economic scientific and technical cooperation signed between them in January 1982. During the visit Dr Ghali held discussions with the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari. The communique said that the two ministers agreed that the Joint Egypt-Nigeria Commission established in that agreement "should meet at the earliest convenient date."

The communique noted with satisfaction the growth of the number of Egyptian technicians and experts "working side by side" with their Nigerian counterparts in the fields of medicine, engineering, port services, teaching and industrial projects. On the continental scene, the communique said that both countries should exert all efforts to ensure the success of the 20th OAU summit due to be held in Conakry, Guinea, this year. It stressed the importance of "achieving national reconciliation and ensuring the independence of Chad and its territorial integrity." It called for the full implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978 on Namibia and pledged their support for the independence of the territory under the "leadership of SWAPO, their sole legitimate representative."

The communique also called for concerted efforts aimed at finding lasting solutions to the problems in Western Sahara, the Middle East and the Iraq-Iran war, saying that those issues threatened world peace and security. It reaffirmed the commitment of Egypt and Nigeria to the principles of the Charter of the UN, the OAU and the Nonaligned Movement.
Dr Gambari signed the communique on behalf of Nigeria while Dr Ghali signed for Egypt.

Border Problems, Relations With Neighbors Discussed

AB191250 Lagos International Service in English 0930 GMT 19 Mar 84

["Viewpoint"]

[Text] One of the first assignments carried out by the Nigerian military administration on assumption of office was to dispatch goodwill delegations to neighboring states. The delegations were instructed to brief those countries on the need for the change of government in Nigeria and to assure them of continued cooperation. The administration also stated its firm commitment to the various regional organizations of which Nigeria is a member. Such organizations include ECOWAS and joint commissions with the neighboring states of Niger, Chad, Cameroon, and Benin Republic. It was in pursuance of the policy of cooperation that the military administration sent a high-level delegation to the 15th session of the Nigerian-Niger joint commission held in Maradi, Niger Republic. The agenda of the meeting included the review of the progress so far made toward the implementation of projects in identified areas of cooperation between the two countries.

Fully convinced of the advantages of cooperation, Nigeria also committed herself to joint ventures in several countries, particularly the neighboring ones. In Niger, for example, the joint ventures include those on water resources, irrigation, communication, and food production.

The military administration has also been cooperating vigorously in the search for peace in Chad. It has set up a special unit in the Ministry of External Affairs to monitor developments in Chad and has held discussions with representatives of Libya and France on the Chadian problem. Active cooperation is also extended to Cameroon. The Nigerian military government has made it clear to the Government of Cameroon that it cherishes the goodneighborliness between the two countries and would like to see the border problem between them resolved permanently. While receiving a delegation from President Paul Biya of Cameroon, the Nigerian leader, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, gave the assurance that his administration would take a serious look at the land and maritime borders of the two countries with a view to removing all problems. It can be rightly asserted that in relation to Cameroon, the Nigerian military administration has demonstrated a large measure of accomodation, cooperation, and goodwill. And this gesture of good will, which must be reciprocal, is what is needed to get a lasting solution to the protracted border problem between Nigeria and Cameroon.

There is no doubt that the Federal Military Government places the greatest premium on fostering international cooperation with Nigeria's neighbors because, as the saying goes, charity begins at home. It is heartwarming that Nigeria's neighbors are showing that they are appreciative of the posture of cooperation adopted toward them by the military administration in Nigeria.

Lagos Comments on RSA Call for Regional Conference
AB211330 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The recent call by racist South Africa for a regional conference on Namibia's independence is surely another means to stultify progress toward the political and economic emancipation of the Namibian people. This becomes more apparent in the demand of the racists for the dissident Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, to participate in such a conference. Such a proposal is, no doubt, a device to legitimize UNITA as a political force to contend with in Angolan affairs.

Since 1975 when Angola attained her independence, the Popular Movement for the Independence of Angola, MPLA, has been recognized by the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, OAU, as representing the government and people of Angola. Also, the Angolan people have demonstrated their faith and loyalty to the party by enshrining it in their Constitution as the only legal party in the country. UNITA, on its own part, has been a dissident group bent on subverting the will of the Angolan people to satisfy the inordinate ambition of the South African puppet, Savimbi. It is an irony of history that Savimbi, who organized UNITA to fight against Portuguese colonization, has now turned round to use the same guns on his own people all because he failed to wrest the mantle of leadership after the departure of the Portuguese. He has even gone farther in his selfish war against his own people by fraternizing with racist South Africa to the chagrin of all African states. The big question now is how does South Africa expect Angola to negotiate with a group that lacks the mandate of the Angolan people and only exists through the evil machinations of the racists.

This is why the rejection of any talks with UNITA by the Angolan Government must be seen as the right step in the right direction. Also, Angola's decision that such a conference must be held under the United Nations' auspices is also a wise suggestion. For the past duplicity of the racists, it would be foolhardy for anyone to deal with South Africa without involving the international community as witness. It must be empasized that any conference on Nambia must discuss ways of implementing the UN Security Council's resolution on Namibian independence without any strings attached to it. For in the past, racist South Africa has been quick in bringing the Cuban presence in Angola into play as a clog in the wheel of progress toward Namibian independence.

She has successfully used this means to hold the world body to ransom with the active connivance and instigation of the United States of America. It is now time for the United States to stop looking at African affairs from a biased geopolitical conception of the world, especially in her ideological warfare with the Soviet Union. The United States must now encourage South Africa to release the Namibian people from bondage so as to make that region of the continent safe for democracy which the United States claims is of paramount interest in that area. The racists must, however, be told that Namibian independence cannot depend on a regional conference but on the will and courage of the racists to allow others to be free.

Establishment of Broadcasting Authority Advocated
AB201722 Dakar PANA in English 1648 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, 20 March (NAN/PANA) — The military governor of Lagos State, Group-Capt. Gbolahan Mudasiru, yesterday in Lagos called for the reorientation of disseminators of information in Nigeria to build an improved image for the country. He said that the reorientation should focus on the activities of the government and Nigerians, rather than on the projection of some personalities.

Group-Capt. Mudasiru, who was opening the meeting of the National Council on Information, said that the objective and credible dissemination of information about the government and the people, and the preservation of the country's culture through the media, were the rights of Nigerians. The governor called for the establishment of a broadcasting authority to ensure an equitable distribution of radio and television frequencies. He said that the body would be required to regulate hours of transmission and to give guidelines on programmes.

Group-Capt. Mudasiru urged the council to consider whether the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FCRN) should continue to operated as a national institution charged with the promotion of national unity, culture, and progress, or should be made to compete with state radio stations in commercial advertising.

The govenor called on the council to evolve ways of making existing state-owned television stations survive the present economic crisis.

Struggle To Eliminate RSA Apartheid Regime Continues
AB212146 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Nigeria has reaffirmed its solidarity with all progressive forces in the world working for the elimination of apartheid and racism. This stand was restated in Lagos by the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, in a speech on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which was marked today. The day commemorated the 24th anniversary of the brutal killing in Sharpeville of 69 Africans by the agents of racist South Africa. The victims were demonstrating against the passed law.

Dr Gambari remarked that over the years, Nigeria had consistently declared its opposition to racial segregation. He pointed out that this was based on the country's conviction that apartheid was an abhorrent doctrine which was repugnant to different people throughout the world. The minister called on the international community to ensure that this decade saw the end of apartheid and racism. Dr Gambari noted that today was an important day in the struggle against apartheid. Nigeria, he added, would continue to cooperate with the oppressed people of South Africa in the struggle to eliminate the obnoxious racist regime.

SAO TOME

President Da Costa Interviewed on Foreign Ties

PM161000 Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese 10 Mar 84 pp 22-24 (Review Section)

[Augusto de Carvalho report: "Struggle Against Isolation in Sao Tome and Principe"]

[Excerpts] "Our relations with Portugal have always been good, and we are sure that they are moving in the right direction, as can be seen now in the visit by Foreign Minister Jaime Gama, which will culminate with a visit by President Ramalho Eanes," Manuel Pinto da Costa, head of state of Sao Tome and Principe, said in an exclusive [undated] interview with *EXPRESSO*.

There are in fact no disputes of any kind between the countries, as we were able to verify in contacts with several Sao Tome leaders: "The Sao Tome people and Government," Foreign Minister Maria da Graca Amorim said, "regard Portugal as their ally in the struggle for civilization."

Deputy Prime Minister Mota Pinto is soon to visit there, too, in his capacity as defense minister, returning the visit to Portugal by his opposite number, Major Oscar de Souza.

Military Cooperation

Does that mean that there will be military cooperation with Portugal, we asked Pinto da Costa.

"Why not?" he replied.

Question: What are the limits of this cooperation?

Answer: It can extend as far as our interests may coincide.

Question: How far is that?

Answer: Listen, there will be no Portuguese bases on Sao Tome and Principe. No Portuguese, and none of any other country.

Question: Poor us... All we needed was to spread bases all over the world... But to take an extreme hypothetical case, would the presence of Portuguese military instructors on Sao Tome and Principe be contary to your interests?

Answer: Not at all. [answer ends]

In practice a country's independence takes shape within the context of the diversification of dependences. In this respect, as is immediately apparent, Sao Tome and Principe is suffering the price of insularity. We asked how President Pinto da Costa approaches this problem.

"Of course we are worried about the problem of isolation, which actually determines a certain kind of mentality," he said, "Apart from the link with Luanda that you mentioned, our aircraft also flies [as published] to Libreville sometimes, though not regularly. At one time there was a frequent link, which I believe is soon to be restored. It is a matter of our delegations meeting and examining the possibilities. In fact, at the moment we have a link only with Angola, but we will soon have a link with TAP [Portuguese airline] that will in fact help end our isolation, which has also had serious economic consequences for us: We have no direct access to other countries' markets. Everything we import comes directly from Europe, which makes prices prohibitive."

Question: Does this isolation not cause you political problems?

Answer: Such as?

Question: Sao Tome does not now have any defense or security problems, but it could in the future, as it has in the past...

Answer: All countries have security problems. Others do not always like what is done in a particular country. We live in a world of conflicting interests, in which there are bloc interests...

Question: Sao Tome has already played the role of aircraft carrier, at the time of Biafra, and somebody may want to use this territory to realize global strategic ambitions...

Answer: It is said that our strategic position is indeed very important. It is not so to us. We do not know what to do with it. We intend neither to threaten nor to attack anyone... We want peace and good relations with everyone.
The fact is that our position here in the Gulf of Guinea is indeed important, and we do take account of this... But we consider it an insult to our intelligence when certain countries say that Sao Tome is a Soviet base, and so forth. How would we permit the existence of a base on an island such as ours? An island not far from several African countries that would feel threatened and would place us in a situation of even greater isolation.

Question: Perhaps it is because of your Soviet-manufactured radar station... There was one military man who, on learning that I was to visit Sao Tome, said to me: "Try to find out how many launch pads there are on the island..."

Answer: I believe journalists should avoid being insulting, and that is a real insult. Listen, there is always talk about bases... Is it not true that Sao Tome is entitled to an airport? If it has one, it is inevitably a base. We would point out that when the foreign minister of Portugal — a NATO country — paid an official visit here he landed at a Soviet base built by a Portuguese firm and also visited a radar station of Soviet manufacture. The minister was authorized to visit anything he wanted. Any country has radar, but if we have it...

Question: Perhaps because it is Soviet-made...
Answer: It is quite normal, since the radar is Soviet-made, for Soviet technicians to instruct our personnel. But there is a problem behind all this — the notion many Europeans have of Africans. According to many Europeans, the African must always have a boss. He cannot be on his own, cannot build anything independently. So they ask of Sao Tome and Principe: Whose zone of influence is it? It is not French, or Portuguese, so whose is it?

We have here Soviets, Cubans, Portuguese, French, Italians, Congolese, Angolans, Equatorial Guineans, and so forth. If we had thousands of Congolese, it would never be said that we werea Congolese base. Basically it is a racial issue... Therefore it is enough for us to have a dozen Cubans for people immediately to start saying that this is a Cuban zone of influence.

Question: There is continual comment on the existence here of a substantial contingent of Angolan troops. Why is it here?

Answer: The presence of the Angolan armed forces should be a source of pride, not censure, for the following reason: We did indeed have problems here in 1976. There were unidentified ships offshore, there were many other things, and we were not in a position to cope with what we imagined to be a major offensive against us. So what did we do? We did not summon Portuguese troops, or U.S. or Soviet troops. We turned to the people of the "five" [former Portuguese African colonies]. They came here from Guinea-Bissau too, with weapons and equipment. Mozambique did not send anyone because it was too far, but it did help us in other ways.
Of course, if it were only Angola, there would be no major problems, but people are going to think that behind Angola there are the Cubans. Oh, God, it is always the same story. The Angolans are here at our request and will leave when we ask them to. Some say that the presence of Angolan troops is prompting Luanda to determine Sao Tome's policy. The fact is that there has never been any interference. It is difficult to find a group that gets along as well as the "five," but none of us interferes in the others' politics. I will give you an example: The Angolans here and our good relations with Angola did not prevent me from paying an official visit to China in 1975, or from returning there in 1982, despite the fact that relations between those two countries are known to be what they are.

UPPER VOLTA

Joint Communique Signed at End of Ghali Visit

AB192135 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] At the end of his 3-day working visit to our country, Butrus Ghali, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs left Ouagadougou this morning for Lagos and Accra. Before his departure, an Egyptian-Upper Voltan joint communique was signed between Mr Ghali and his Upper Voltan counterpart, Comrade Araba Diallo. The communique is read by Ali Mayir al-Said, chief of cabinet in the Ministry of State

[Begin recording] Egyptian-Upper Voltan communique: At the invitation of his excellency Arba Diallo, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Upper Volta, His Excellency Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, paid an official visit to Ouagadougou from 17 to 19 March 1984. During his visit, Dr Butrus Ghali was received in audience by His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and head of state, to whom he delivered a message from His Excellency Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The Egyptian minister also had talks with his Upper Voltan counterpart, which took place in an atmosphere of reciprocal friendship and mutual understanding. During their working session, which was extended to other officials, the two parties reviewed their bilateral cooperation, as well as African and international issues.

A. Bilateral relations:

The two parties expressed their desire to strengthen their bilateral relations and to consolidate the existing cooperation between Egypt and Upper Volta in the economic, technical, cultural, and political fields. They agreed to devote special attention to increasing the volume of trade between the two countries, as well as economic cooperation, in accordance with the Lagos plan of action. To this end, they decided to reactivate the trade and agricultural cooperation draft agreements signed between the two countries on 10 June 1969 and 27 February 1982 respectively. They also agreed to do everything possible to make the air transportation agreement between the two countries more dynamic.

The two ministers expressed their happiness over the agreement signed between the Egyptian Fund for Technical Assistance and the Upper Voltan Government on 21 February 1982. The Egyptian side reaffirmed the readiness of Egyptian technicians and experts to participate with their Upper Voltan brothers in the economic development of their country.

On the cultural field, the two parties jointly agreed to initiate negotiations for drawing up a program for implementing the Egyptian-Upper Voltan cultural agreement of 13 May 1972 in order to promote cultural exchanges between the two countries.

B. African and international issues:

1. The international situation: The two parties expressed their deep concern over the deterioration of the international situation, and the resumption of the cold war between the two blocs. In this context, they stressed the importance of the role of the Nonaligned Movement to which Egypt and Upper Volta remain deeply attached. They also stressed the need to preserve peace and security in the world according to international law and the principles of the UN Charter.

2. The OAU: The two ministers reiterated their faith in the OAU, its charter, and its principles. They agreed to coordinate their diplomatic actions in order to strengthen the continental organization so that it can accomplish its mission of serving African solidarity and unity, and effectively contribute to solving African conflicts in accordance with the principles and objectives of its charter. While expresssing happiness over the success of the OAU ministerial conference held in Addis Ababa from 25 February to 5 March 1984, the two ministers agreed to redouble their efforts to make the 20th OAU summit meeting one of reconciliation and African solidarity.

3. Western Sahara: Tackling the Western Saharan problem, the two parties expressed their conviction that the solution to the problem lies in the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the OAU and the United Nations.

4. Chad: The two parties examined at length the Chadian tragedy which has been going on for more than 18 years, and expressed the hope that the brothers in dispute would be able to find a formula for a national reconciliation. The two parties called on the OAU to convene a meeting at which representatives of the various Chadian factions would meet to prepare a new national reconciliation conference.

5. Southern Africa: The two parties reiterated their unflinching support to the Namibian people in their struggle for national independence under the leadership of SWAPO, its sole and legitimate representative, and expressed their conviction of the need for the unconditional and rapid implementation of Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council. They strongly condemned the apartheid policy of racial discrimination which the Pretoria racist regime pursues. They reaffirmed their support for the frontline states. They are following attentively the initiatives made by these states to preserve their political independence, their territorial integrity, and their national sovereignty.

6. Middle East: The two parties reaffirmed that a just, lasting and global peace can only be established in the Middle East through the total implementation of the UN and OAU resolutions calling for the evacuation of Israel from all Arab territories occupied since the June 1977 aggression, and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. They reiterated their support for the struggle of these people under the leadership of the PLO for their self-determination and the establishment of a national state. The two parties strongly condemned the Israeli settlement policy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a policy which constitutes obstacles to the efforts for finding just and lasting solutions to the Middle East problem, and a violation of UN and OAU resolutions, as well as the Geneva convention.

7. Lebanon: Concerning Lebanon, the two parties stressed the need for the immediate evacuation of Israeli occupation troops in accordance with Resolutions 508 and 509 of the UN Security Council. They also reaffirmed their support for all efforts aimed at establishing a national reconciliation between all Lebanese and at preserving the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of that country.

8. Iraq-Iran war: They expressed their grave preoccupation over the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and the escalation of military operations between the two countries. Convinced that this war constitutes a threat to world peace and security, they appealed to the two sides at war to accept an immediate cease-fire and to work for a peaceful and negotiated settlement of this conflict.

Participating in the working session on the Egyptian side: His Excellency Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs; His Excellency Ahmed Sidqi, ambassador and director of African affairs; His Excellency Yussuf Grendhi, Egyptian ambassador to Ouagadougou; 'Ali Mayir al-Said, chief of cabinet in the Ministry of State; and (Muhammad al-Urabi), second secretary.

On the Upper Volta side: Comrade Arba Diallo, minister of foreign affairs: Comrade Eugene Dondasse, minister of planning and cooperation; Comrade Seydou Traore, minister of rural development; Comrade Dominique Ouedraogo, secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Comrade (Souleyman Mandi), director of political affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Comrade P. Desire Kabore, director of bilateral cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Comrade Michel Balima, from the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation; Comrade Marcel (Takieta) of the Ministry of Rural Development; Comrade Dr Jean-Marie Kyelem,from the Ministry of Public Health; and Comrade Dr Amedee Ouedraogo, of the Ministry of Public Health.

His Excellency Dr Butrus Ghali expressed his deep gratitude for the warm reception accorded him and his delegation throughout their stay in the Republic of Upper Volta. He invited His Excellency Arba Diallo, Upper Voltan minister of foreign affairs, to pay an official visit to Egypt. Mr Diallo accepted this invitation with pleasure and the date of this visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

Issued in Ouagadougou on 19 March 1984. [end recording]

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Returns From 4-Day Visit to Cuba

MB220712 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, returned home yesterday from the Republic of Cuba, where he paid a 4-day friendship and working visit.

In Cuba the Angolan head of state held talks with President Fidel Castro Ruz and other Cuban officials on bilateral relations and international issues, namely the tension in southern Africa. These talks culminated with the signing of a declaration which reaffirms the statement of 4 February 1982 that the Cuban troops will only withdraw from Angola on the condition that South African troops unilaterally withdraw from the People's Republic of Angola. The gradual withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist troops from the territory of the People's Republic of Angola will also take place on the condition of the strict implementation of UN Security Council resolution 435/78, the attainment of independence by Namibia and the total withdrawal of South Africa's illegal occupation troops from Namibia. The Angolan-Cuban declaration adds that the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola will also depend on the cessation of any act of direct aggression or threat of aggression against the People's Republic of Angola by South Africa, the United States, and their allies.

Members of the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau and Central Committee, the government, and grassroots organizations were at the 4 February international airport to greet the president of the republic on his return to Angola.

FAPLA Successes, Minister's Tour Reported

MB220725 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] An assortment of weapons and ammunition was captured from UNITA puppets on 15 March during a clash between them and the glorious People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] combatants when the bandits sought to establish themselves some 30 km from the city of Huambo.

Recently, FAPLA forces captured 1,400 rounds of AK ammunition and annihilated 8 bandits following clashes in the vicinity of the Lovua commune in the 10th military region. Thus, FAPLA operations are continuing with success in all areas where the puppets have tried to operate.

The minister of transport and communications, Bernardo de Sousa, met yesterday with the Commission for Support to the War Effort and held talks with Huila Province officials to assess transportation difficulties experienced by the local residents. The day before yesterday Minister Bernardo de Sousa visited Namibe Province, where he toured the local harbor and held talks with provincial authorities.

UNITA Reports Fighting Between FAPLA, Cubans

MB211526 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Increasingly acute contradictions between the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] and the Cuban troops have been reported throughout the country lately. In Menongue, these contradictions have reached the stage of armed conflict. On 22 February, a heavy exchange of gunfire took place between FAPLA forces and Cubans and, according to our underground cells in Emnongue, resulted in the death of four Cubans and two FAPLA soldiers. Despite the efforts by the MPLA chieftains to hide the explosive differences between FAPLA forces and Cubans, the situation is spreading rapidly throughout the country in protest against the presence of the Cuban intruders in Angola, which is also condemned by the Angolan patriots in the MPLA.

Comrade President Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, the UNITA supreme commander has appealed to the compatriots within the MPLA who are still motivated by patriotism to fight against the presence of the Cubans in our country. In this year of the anti-Cuban patriotic front, all of us who are true Angolan patriots, even those in the MPLA, should seek with our Angolan national pride to fight with every means at our disposal against the foreign occupation of our country and in the defense of the honor of our motherland.

'Primitive Brutality' of Huambo Revolutionary Tribunal

MB211930 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Station commentary: "Primitive Brutality"]

[Text] Fellow Angolans: On 20 February 1984, year of the anti-Cuban patriotic front, the Angolan people were horrified by another criminal act -- the bogus trial held in the city of Huambo by a revolutionary tribunal. Under the cover of a so-called revolutionary tribunal, once more we witness a masquerade of justice which culminated in the conviction of four peaceful citizens who were falsely accused of charges such as committing offences against the authorities and espionage.

Compatriot (Isais Jeremias Nhagolo) was condemned to death by firing squad; (Maria Aline Lucas Calundungo) was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment; (Angelino Iakele) was sentenced to 4 years imprisonment; and the youngster (Laurinda Frederico Mussile) was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment.

As part of the same outbreak of criminal activities, a number of civilians, including old men, women, and children were massacred in cold blood in the vicinity of Huambo on 15, 16, 19, and 20 February. In the same period 254 people were arbitrarily arrested in Huambo. In the peaceful village of Leua, 14 traditional chiefs were publicly executed together with District Commissioners (Mauricio Calacala) and (Antonio Matchimbo).

With these cowardly acts the minority, illegal, and illegitimate MPLA chieftains have once again revealed their real nature, which is characterized by most heinous terror and primitive brutality. The MPLA warlords, who have been defeated beyond repair on all fronts and completely discredited internationally by the spectacular UNITA victories, have desperately committed repugnant deeds like fatally wounded and dying beasts. When are you shameless chieftains going to stop perpetrating these wild massacres, incredible tortures and atrocious persecutions, deportations of adults and children, and more monstrous cruelties? [passage indistinct]. Oh, you MPLA warlords, heartless Cubans, GDR henchmen, and Siberian torturers, as well as the whole lot of excecutioners, your days are numbered, and in the hour of truth you will not escape the popular and just verdict.

As Dr Jonas Savimbi, the indisputable leader of the Angolan nation and intransigent defender of the oppressed in Angola, succinctly puts it, we quote, all political maneuvers against a people are possible if that people is unarmed; but if they are armed, all political maneuvers have their limits, end of quote.

ANGOP Views RSA Regional Conference Proposal

AB212148 Luanda ANGOP in French 1805 GMT 21 Mar 84

[ANGOP commentary: "Pretoria's Provocations"]

[Text] Luanda, 21 Mar [ANGOP] — A few days ago the South African Government once more advanced a "peaceful" initiative concerning Namibia. What is it about? Pretoria proposes the convening of a "regional conference" that would be attended by South Africa, Angola, SWAPO, the Angolan puppets, and the so-called "internal Namibian parties." The Western and South African press present this proposal as an important and "positive measure" aimed at finding a speedy solution to the problem of the independence of the Namibian people.

However, if we set the words aside, we will see that Pretoria's proposal could be described as a diplomatically and politically provocative statement aimed at delaying a solution to the Namibian problem.

First, the People's Republic of Angola is not involved in the Namibian conflict. According to a statement by the Ministry of External Relations, it is SWAPO and South Africa which are involved in this conflict and they are the ones who must hold talks through the intermediacy of the UN Secretary General.

In these talks, the interested parties must study the problems of the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78, without linking this problem with other issues that have nothing to do with the settlement of the Namibian problem. Being a frontline state, Angola can participate in the conference merely as an observer.

The Angolan Government has always adopted this stand, and the South African leaders are perfectly aware of this. Pretoria also knows that the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party categorically rejects any form of dialogue with the terrorist and counterrevolutionary group of racist lackeys. Therefore, the proposal to gather representatives of the puppets and representatives of the legitimate government of Angola around a conference table merely constitutes an attempt to give legal recognition to these inferior traitors.

The same provocation is noticed in racist South Africa's proposals concerning the participation in the conference of the internal "Namibian parties." Pretoria has been trying for many years to introduce its puppets at the roundtable conference, as was the case at the conference on Namibia which took place in January 1981 in Geneva, and which failed following the intransigence of South Africa.

SWAPO is the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people, as has been approved by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. Pretoria's tendency to accuse the United Nations of not having an "impartial attitude" toward SWAPO is inconsistent, for it is an organization which enjoys the large support of the Namibian people. Even the South African press has always conceded that if free and fair elections were organized in Namibia, SWAPO would be the incontestable winner.

But it is precisely this that the South African leaders do not like and which also does not please those imperialist states, especially the United States of America, that for many years have tried to delay or, if possible, prevent the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435 by bringing a puppet and pro-neocolonialist government to power in Namibia to defend the economic and statistics [as received] interest of the West and South Africa in that country.

Furthermore, the present "peaceful" initiative of the South African Government serves the same purpose. As a spokesman of the United Nations said, Pretoria's proposal on the convening of a so-called "regional conference" on Namibia has surprised the UN secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar. Such an initiative, he stated, makes Security Council Resolution 435 useless as a basis for the Namibian issue.

However, Pretoria's attempts to deceive the international public opinion and perpetuate the racist power in Namibia is bound to fail. Supported by independent Africa and all progressive forces of the world, the Namibian patriots continue their struggle for the liberation of their fatherland. There is no doubt that victory will be theirs.

BOTSWANA

Minister of Commerce, Industry To Visit PRC

MB180828 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of commerce and industry, Mr M.P. Kwako Nwako, is to visit the PRC next month at the head of a 4-man team. The mission will be a follow-up visit to last year's visit to the PRC by the president, Dr Quett Masire. Mr Nwako will instigate the increasing of trade and investment ties between Botswana and the PRC. During his stay in China, Mr Nwako will visit the Canton Trade Fair, the biggest trade fair in China.

A senior trade promotions adviser in the minister of commerce and industry, Mr (John Collins), told the BOTSWANA PRESS AGENCY that a trade agreement between Botswana and China was currently under negotiation and that it might be finalized during Mr Nwako's visit. From China, Mr Nwako will visit Hong Kong.

LESOTHO

Political Parties Deny Official Links With RSA

MB211411 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] It has been reliably reported this week that the political parties involved in the recent talks in Pretoria which resulted in the formation of the Democratic Alliance have denied that they were officially represented at these talks.

A spokesman for the Basotho National Party, BNP, said C.D. Molapo, Thomas Mofolo, and Thabo Mokutsu were rebels. The spokesman added that these three had in fact infiltrated the BNP and the Lesotho cabinet as South African agents.

The full report on the Pretoria talks recently received by the prime minister revealed that C.D. Molapo had for a long time been an active agent of South African interests within the Lesotho cabinet. The spokesman further added that as a result of these actions, these rebels can no longer be regarded as members of the BNP but as dissidents in the service of foreign interests.

In the case of the Mokhetle faction of the BCP, [Basotholand Congress Party] it is understood that the representatives of this faction of the BCP, Mr S. (Motlammeli) and Mr G.M. Kodisang, have denied that (Chaolane) represented the BCP. They said that (Chaolane) was part of a dissident group within the BCP which had been influenced by C.D. Molapo to meet the South African foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, with a view to the formation of a new political party specifically intended to topple, in collaboration with the South African Government, the present government by force.

The secretary general of the Marematlou Freedom Party issued a statement denying that a certain Mr Monaheng represented the Marematlou Freedom Party at the Pretoria talks. The United Democratic Party however was officially represented by Mr (Mofubelu), who was representing the party leader, Mr C.D. Mofeli.

It is learned from reliable sources that Mr Mofeli now wishes to withdraw from the Democratic Alliance because he has discovered that the other dissidents went to Pretoria without any mandate from their political parties. He also alleges that they had no political power base in Lesotho. Mr Mofeli however continues his direct links with South Africa. It is these links that caused the National Assembly to have him expelled from that body during its last sitting.

Commenting on these developments, the secretary general of the Basotho National Party, the honorable V.M. Makhele, said: These revelations offer more conclusive proof of South Africa's direct interference in the internal affairs of Lesotho. He added that it was evident that the seven dissidents led by C.D. Molapo are political opportunists who are interested only in enriching themselves with easily available money from the coffers of the South African Government.

It was also evident from the disarray in the opposition circles that the Basotho National Party remained the only political party in Lesotho with a secured political home for Basotho of all walks of life.

Sharpeville Day Meeting Condemns Nkomati Pact

MB220705 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] The so-called Nkomati Accord was totally dismissed as unpatriotic and useless by the delegates of the 24th anniversary of the Sharpeville Day, held at the United Nations Information Center in Maseru yesterday afternoon. Most outspoken was the representative of the ANC of South Africa, who described the accord as pure treason to the African liberation cause in South Africa.

He pointed out that the accord should not be described as a nonaggression pact, because there is not a single African country which has to date shot a bullet against South Africa. Instead, the whole world knows that South Africa has attacked the countries of Mozambique, Lesotho, and Angola unprovoked.

The representative of the Lesotho Women in Self-Help told the convention that Lesotho women will always support the South African women in their struggle for liberation, and announced that the local women's organization has decided to observe all days on which the women of that country had been harassed by the South African racist government.

Other speakers at the meeting were representatives of the ANC, the PAC, the Students Representative Council of the National University of Lesotho, the Committee for South African Students Solidarity, and the Lesotho Students Peace and Solidarity Association.

MALAWI

President, New RSA Envoy Reaffirm Cooperation

MB211850 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] His excellency the life president today said it is possible for peoples or governments with different viewpoints to cooperate on certain issues. The life president was speaking at the state house in Zomba when he received credentials of the new South African ambassador to Malawi, Mr Oswald Gustav Albers.

In his speech the life president reiterated that the Malawi Government believes in the policy of contact and dialogue. He

added that problems between sovereign states should be resolved peacefully through discussions and negotiations. The life president then observed that the friendly and strong ties between Malawi and South Africa stem from the pragmatism and this conviction on the part of the leadership of the two countries. The life president also said that Malawi, as a developing country, needs all the economic aid it can get from friendly governments and expressed gratitude to the Government of South Africa for its promise to continue assisting in Malawi's development efforts.

Speaking when he presented his credentials, the new South African ambassador said his country was proud to have been associated with some of Malawi's major projects since Malawi became independent. He added that South Africa will continue assisting Malawi in her economic endeavors. Mr Albers also saluted the life president who, he said, for many years has taken a much respected lead in his policy of mutual respect and noninterference in each others affairs.

MOZAMBIQUE

OAU Liberation Committee Official Arrives in Maputo

MB211140 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Hashim Mbita, executive secretary of the Coordinating Committee for the Liberation Movements of Africa, arrived in Maputo late yesterday afternoon. The OAU official will hold talks with the Mozambique Government on questions related to the political situation on our continent and in southern Africa in particular. He will also visit other countries in the region with the same objective.

Discussions on Nkomati Accord With South Africa

Council of Ministers Sessions

MB211945 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Mozambique held enlarged sessions to define the application of the nonaggression and good-neighborliness pact signed on 16 March between the Mozambique and South African Governments. The sessions, which were held on Monday and Tuesday in Maputo, were attended by members of the Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party, the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly, state secretaries, and senior members of the defense and security forces. The meetings defined concrete tasks to be implemented by every sector involved in the implementation of the Nkomati Accord, which is now beginning.

West 'Pressured' RSA To Sign

MB191612 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] One of Mozambique's leading scholars has said that South Africa was pressured into signing the Nkomati accord with Mozambique by its close allies Britain, the United States, and France, who saw their capital investments threatened by Pretoria's strategy of regional destabilization. The director of the Center for African Studies at Eduardo Mondlane University, Aquino de Braganca, was speaking on an interview with Radio Mozambique and the Sunday newspaper *DOMINGO*.

Asked if the ANC of South Africa would be harmed by the Nkomati accord, Professor de Braganca commented on the spectacular growth of the ANC inside South Africa in recent years and the broad front of support for its liberation aims. He recalled President Samora Machel's repeated commitment to continuing moral, diplomatic, and political support for the ANC. But he added that Frelimo could not take the ANC's place in the liberation of the people, as revolution is not made by proxy.

Algeria Supports Accord

MB211003 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Algeria has expressed its unreserved support for and total solidarity with the People's Republic of Mozambique for the victory of the socialist policy of peace which has led to the signing of the nonaggression and good-neighborliness accord with the Republic of South Africa. The Algerian stand was expressed by the visiting speci_l envoy of Chadli Bendjedid, chairman of the FLN party and president of Algeria. The envoy was received yesterday by Marshal Samora Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

Malawi Delegation Discusses Beira Harbor

MB211900 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Mozambique and Malawi delegations held talks in Beira today to study the viability of using Beira harbor to handle Malawian goods. The Malawi minister arrived in Beira today after visiting Nacala Harbor in Nampula. While touring Beira harbor, the Malawi minister of transport and communications was informed of the current work aimed at rehabilitating the harbor with financial assistance from the Netherlands. The work is expected to be completed next year.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO, SWANU Leaders Hold 'Secret Meeting'

MB220936 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 22 Mar 84 p 2

[By Peter Kenny, *MAIL* Africa Bureau]

[Text] A secret meeting between the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) and the South-West Africa National Union (SWANU) took place in an undisclosed African capital recently. SWAPO and SWANU are the oldest South-West African nationalist parties. The leader of SWANU, Mr Moses Katjiuongua, said in Windhoek yesterday he would call a press conference today on the subject.

The meeting between SWAPO and SWANU did not involve members of SWANU who are serving on the Multi-Party Conference [MPC], South-West Africa's internal intitiative to develop a constitution for an independent Namibia. A meeting between Mr Katjiuongua, who is playing a major role in the MPC, and SWAPO's president, Mr Sam Nujoma, did not materialise.

According to sources in Windhoek, SWANU's general secretary, Mrs Nora Chase, and its former leader, Mr Gerson Veii, a former Robben Island prisoner, were among those who met the two SWAPO leaders, apparently in Lusaka. Both Mrs Chase and Mr Veii are known to have been opposed to the participation of SWANU in the MPC and neither of them has been seen at any sittings of the MPC. There have been rumours in Windhoek that Mrs Chase and Mr Veii might join SWAPO, but these have not been confirmed.

SWANU, an older political party than SWAPO, is considered to be a largely Herero-based intellectual party. While SWAPO received much of its backing from Moscow in the '60s, SWANU was backed by Beijing.

If SWANU splits it would be a blow to the MPC, which is relying heavily on the image fostered by more leftwing-oriented parties like SWANU, Mr Andreas Shipanga's SWAPO Democrats, and the Damara Council of Mr Justus Garoeb. The MPC invited SWAPO to join its ranks some time ago, but SWAPO has so far not responded.

By being starved of its guerrilla bases in Angola, SWAPO may be forced to take a markedly different approach if it is to keep its profile high in the future. The return to South-West Africa of its founder, Mr Herman Toivo ja Toivo, freed after serving 16 years of an 18-year sentence, could help maintain SWAPO's image. There is also the possibility that if Mr Toivo is not content with Mr Nujoma's performance, he could challenge his leadership from inside the party.

SWAPO's Nujoma Calls on RSA To Talk Over Namibia

AB211744 Lagos NAN in English 1545 GMT 21 Mar 84

[By James Bello]

[Text] Nairobi, March 21 [NAN] — The SWAPO leader, Mr Sam Nujoma, today in Nairobi called on South Africa to come to a negotiating table with his organisation and discuss the independence of Namibia. Mr Nujoma ruled out any suggestion by Pretoria that SWAPO should consult with internal forces inside Namibia.

The Nairobi correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA [NAN] reported that Mr Nujoma told newsmen that South Africa thought it could create leadership struggle within SWAPO by releasing the founder, Mr Toivo ja Toivo, adding that instead his release "has now strengthened SWAPO's leadership". He explained that SWAPO would not be faced with any leadership struggle as the organization's objectives were based on collective responsibilities.

Mr Nujoma expressed gratitude to the people of Kenya and their government for their solidarity with the "suffering masses of southern Africa."

Mr ja Toivo said that he would never compromise his principles for which he was imprisoned, adding that he would continue to fight until Namibia was freed.

Affirms Readiness for Cease-Fire

EA211812 Nairobi KNA in English 1735 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Nairobi, March 21 — The president of the South West African Peoples Organization, Mr Sam Nujoma, left today for Lusaka, Zambia after brief talks with President Daniel arap Moi.

Mr Nujoma accompanied by the SWAPO founder, Mr Herman Toivo ja Toivo, told a press conference at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport before their departure that SWAPO is now ready to sign a ceasefire agreement with South Africa in order to put an end to war and strife in Namibia.

"We believe that a negotiated settlement and peaceful solution can only be reached if the indigenous people are negotiating with the colonial power. Obvious examples of countries which went through the same process are the likes of Kenya, Zambia and the most recent one, Zimbabwe", he said.

The SWAPO president decried the all-party conference proposed by South Africa and added that the idea was an elaborate conspiracy aimed at confusing the whole issue of Namibian independence. "SWAPO is a popular mass movement in Namibia just as KANU was in this country. After all, the so-called internal parties, their members are Namibians who are unfortunately misled. Some of them are opportunists and because of money, they have allowed themselves to be used by the enemy at the expense of the suffering Namibian people", he said.

Mr Nujoma expressed his gratitude to President Daniel arap Moi, the government and the people of Kenya for their warm welcome and kind hospitality accorded him and his delegation during their visit.

SOUTH AFRICA

Effects of U.S. Presidential Election Discussed

MB211732 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 18 Mar 84

["Top Level" program, presented by Victor Mackeson — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Mackeson] That the election for the president of the United States is important to South Africa goes without saying. It is important to the entire free world. Daan Eksteen looks at some of the background details to the election and the run up to it.

[Eksteen] Why should South Africans be interested in an election many thousands of kilometers away? Mainly, perhaps, because

the United States has become heavily involved in southern African affairs in general. Although many observers point out that South Africa is a peripheral foreign policy concern to the United States, one should bear in mind that, in the words of the director for North America of the South Africa Foundation, John Chettle: The ideology and the judgement of whoever happens to be president is of immense importance.

[Mackeson] But why is this forthcoming election so important to South Africa?

[Unidentified speaker] I think the main importance is that the Reagan administration has started with a policy towards southern Africa which calls itself constructive engagement, and I think has been one of the most genuinely constructive American contributions to peace on the subcontinent that has been made by American Administration. I think we have to recognize that though we contributed a great deal to this process, it would have been very difficult for us to have made the initial contacts, perhaps, with the Angolan Government, and that some of this was prepared for us by the administration not necessarily because they believe that it is important for them to simply support South Africa regardless of what its policies are, but because they believe that this whole period of change is taking place in South Africa, that if there is greater understanding of it on the African continent then that there can be greater peace on the subcontinent, that it may defuse the kind of tensions that exist, and that the best single contribution they can make to people of all races to the peace of the whole subcontinent is actually to try and defuse those tensions.

[Mackeson] In the foreign policy sphere, Lebanon, arms control, Grenada, Central America will play an important role in the outcome of the election, but the economic situation in the United States will probably play the biggest role. To come back to southern Africa and the possible effect of this election, the Reagan administration understands that if peace could be established in the subcontinent, it would benefit not only the United States but all the inhabitants of southern Africa.

[Chettle] The kinds of off-the-cuff advocacy of sanctions that we have heard during the election are really not, I think, to be taken terribly seriously, but at the same time after having made those analyses I think they would also have to bear in mind that this whole process of change in development and constructive engagement and detente has gone very far, and it would be a very foolish Democratic presidential candidate or presidential nominee who wanted to sabotage what had actually been achieved, when the fact of the matter is that even people who are hostile to South Africa's policies have to recognize that in getting Mozambique and South Africa together at Komatipoort, a great change has been wrought in the whole structure of peace on the African Continent.

[Unidentified speaker] In other words, constructive engagement involves the whole of southern Africa, not only South Africa.

[Chettle] That is exactly right, and it would be paradoxical obviously for the United States then to take action against South Africa at the very time that some of the more radical Marxist states in southern Africa are actually meeting in friendship on the border.

SABC To Thwart Marxist 'Onslaught' Against RSA

MB211220 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The director general of the South African Broadcasting Corporation [SABC], Mr Adriaan Eksteen, says it is necessary for the SABC to play its part unconditionally in ensuring that revolutionary onslaught against South Africa does not succeed. Speaking at the Rand Afrikaanse University, Mr Eksteen said this was a high priority at the SABC, and that the corporation would go out of its way to render this service in the interests of the country. Referring to the onslaught against South Africa from abroad, Mr Eksteen pointed out that African countries such as Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Angola, Tanzania, Zambia, Madagascar, Ghana, Nigeria, and Lesotho broadcast to South Africa for more than 64 hours a week with the aim of spreading Marxist ideology and promoting revolution in South Africa.

Mr Eksteen said that to appreciate the full extent of the onslaught, broadcasts from the Soviet Union, Communist China, and other communist countries had to be added to the list, as well as some from Western countries which were not necessarily favorably disposed. To combat the onslaught over the airwaves, the external service of the SABC, Radio RSA, had been created. Radio RSA was not an instrument of war over the airwaves, but rather an instrument with which to promote goodwill and understanding.

Labor Leader Denied Passport, Others Detained

MB211149 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] The head of the South African Allied Workers Union [SAWU], Sam Kikine, has been prevented from traveling to Geneva. Kikine, who was to attend a worker education seminar in the city on 12 March, applied last month for a passport. He was told that his application was being considered. When he telephoned the Department of Interior in Johannesburg, he was told they had no record of his application.

Meanwhile, Kikine says two SAWU organizers in Durban have been detained by security police. Kikine says (Ntsephe Thembinkosi) and (Mshengu Shabalala) were detained on 9 March under the Internal Security Act.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Reiterates Support for ANC, SWAPO

MB211419 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, has renewed Zambia's unconditional support for the struggle for majority rule in South Africa and independence for Namibia being waged by the ANC and SWAPO, respectively. In his message to the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid to

commemorate the 1961 Sharpeville massacres, President Kaunda also called on the international community to reject the dismemberment of South Africa by refusing the recognition of the sham independence of the Bantustan tribal homelands.

Dr Kaunda said [words indistinct] reject constituent reforms aimed at isolating the black people; these divide-and-rule tactics are designed to sap the energy of the struggle and divert its course. He said a rather racist regime was trying to boost its image internationally. Through such tactics apartheid cannot be legitimized by itself.

Dr Kaunda said: 24 years after the Sharpeville massacres, the blood of Sharpeville continued to nourish the struggle against apartheid, and the incident remained an indelible blemish on human civilization, and the reminder of the atrocities of apartheid. Dr Kaunda commended the committee for its untiring efforts to eradicate apartheid in South Africa and Namibia and racial discrimination wherever it can be found.